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PUBLISHER:

Mike Henry

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR:

Melania Ross

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:

Mike Babcock, Don Bryant, Bill Callahan, James Hale, Ken Hambleton, Paul Hammel, Rod Henkel, Don Lee, Dirk Maley, Chuck Pool, Pat Quinn.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

William Lauer

EDITORIAL & GRAPHIC

PRODUCTION:

Kathy Ronnow, Rita Sazama, Kevin Henry, Chris Greer

ACCOUNTING:

David Brandenburg

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR, MARKETING DIRECTOR:

M.E. Johnson

CIRCULATION:

Laura Burruss, Annesa Hollander

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**SOMEWHERE IN
MEMORIAL STADIUM**

I am a native New Yorker who would like to express the joy I had in attending my first Nebraska football game. The game I went to see was Nebraska against Washington. When I set foot in Memorial Stadium on that Saturday night, I could feel the electricity in the air. The crowd was great, everyone was very friendly and festive. As the game progressed I knew I would have to come back again next year regardless of the outcome of this game. In the end the Cornhuskers lost, but I still had a great time. There truly is no other place like Nebraska! I really appreciated the Midwestern hospitality everyone showed me. Thanks to everyone who made my trip a great time. See you next year!

Karl A. Lehmann
Valhalla, N.Y.

Having been graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1944 and moving to Texas immediately, thereafter, I have not had the opportunity to attend many home games. However

this year we met our daughter and son-in-law, who live in Washington and support the Husky football program, in Lincoln for the September 21 game.

The reason for this letter is to congratulate the people of Lincoln and all those associated with the University on what outstanding hosts they are to everyone — especially those that displayed the opposing team's colors. My kids remarked many times about different instances where they were afforded this feeling of friendliness and caring. Since their return to Washington, they have talked with many friends who had also made the long trip to Lincoln and they all remarked about the superb treatment that they received while in Nebraska.

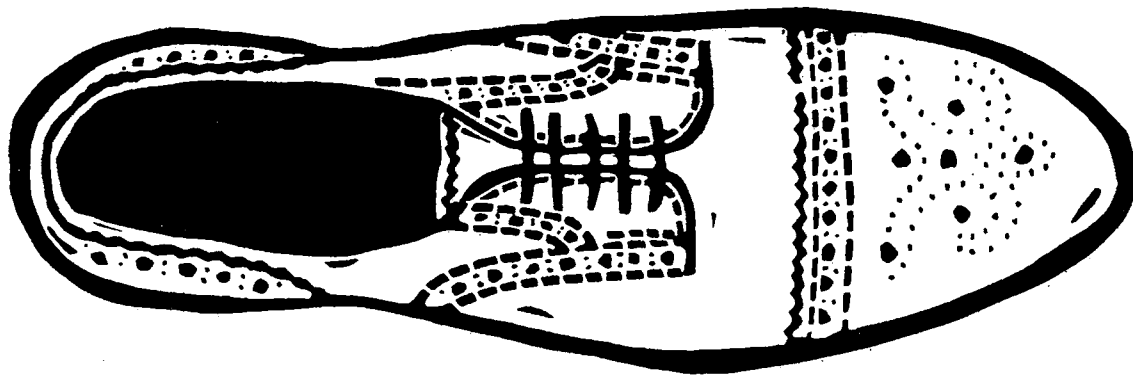
I'm only sorry that we didn't win the ball game but I certainly came back to Texas with a great feeling about the people in my former home state.
G.W. "Bill" Briggs
Houston, Texas

GLASS HISTORY

I am writing in response to an inquiry by Rick Kelsey in the September

21 issue of HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED. I have a complete set of the glasses imprinted with the emblems of various colleges and a record of their games with Nebraska. The glasses were produced for Sam's fast food restaurant during the 1976 season. Each glass was available the week prior to the game. I was in graduate school at the University during the '76 season, became a "true blue" fan and have continued to follow, with pride, Nebraska's athletic teams since that time. Incidentally, I returned to Lincoln for the 1989 Homecoming game and stopped by Sam's to see if perhaps they were again offering a collector glass series in honor of Nebraska's 100 years of football, but unfortunately they were not.

Every citizen of the state of Nebraska should be proud of their University. I received a quality education which has served me well, met some truly fine people and became a Husker for life. An outsider's impression of a state and its flagship university is often determined by its athletic teams and coaches due to their visibility and media coverage. Dr. Osborne has earned



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and deserves every Husker's support. He does not deserve the constant and continuing criticism that I understand he receives. He is building men ... and from that perspective, so what if they lose a few games (even the so-called big ones) each year. They are winning far more than Dr. Osborne's critics would choose to admit.

I enjoy your publication and have been a subscriber to **HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED** since it began. Keep up the good work!

Colby Cochran
Salisbury, N.C.

STATS STATIC

A feature of your magazine that I have enjoyed over the past several seasons has been omitted in 1991. I am referring to the section entitled "Husker Stats," which used to give a statistical rundown of every player that had played during the season. This feature gave fans an opportunity to see who had contributed and which players were gaining experience. I am disappointed to see that feature no longer is included in your publication.

Jim Craig
San Jose, Calif.

Jim: Thank you for your comment. We receive many requests for statistics in many different formats and can't seem to reach a consensus. We'll probably return to last season's format when we give cumulative statistics at the end of this season. —Ed.

TAPE REQUEST

I wish to obtain a videotape of the live broadcast of the 1988 Arizona State-Nebraska game that was carried on ESPN in Lincoln. I will gladly provide the tape, cost of shipping and any fee necessary. If you can help me, please contact me. Thank you for your help.

Bob Lewis
2940 S.W. Gage Blvd. #223
Topeka, Kan. 66614

PREJUDICED BUT VIABLE

I've always realized that offensive interior lineman do not receive much attention from the news media. Very seldom do they receive recognition for a good block, like defensive linemen do for a good tackle.

Also I've learned over the years that players from small schools in Nebraska do not get the same recognition that

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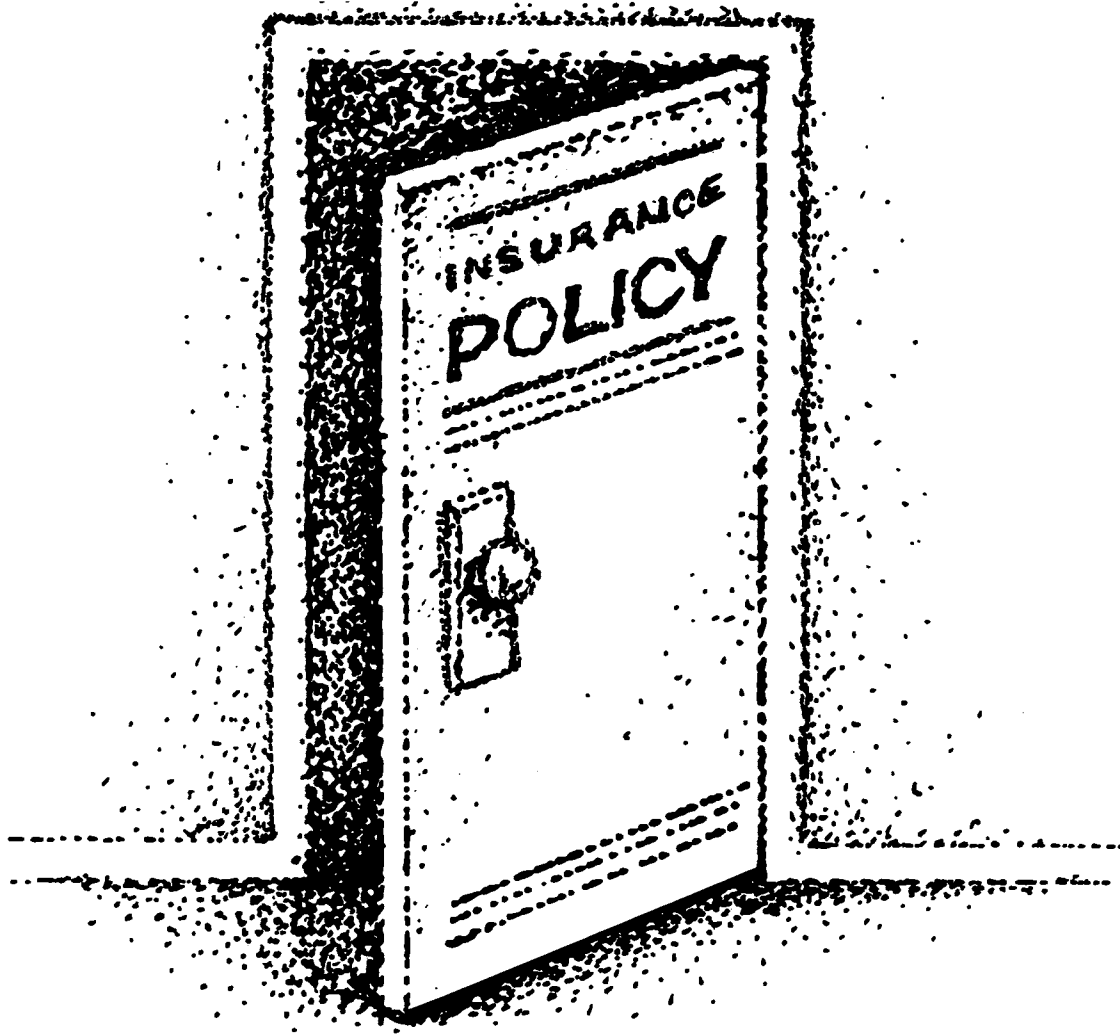
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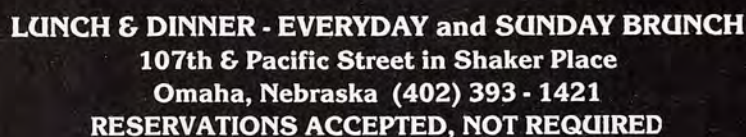
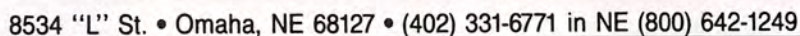
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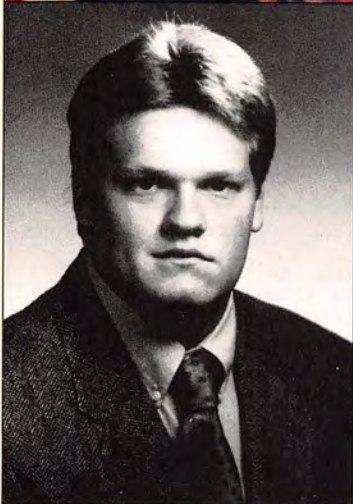
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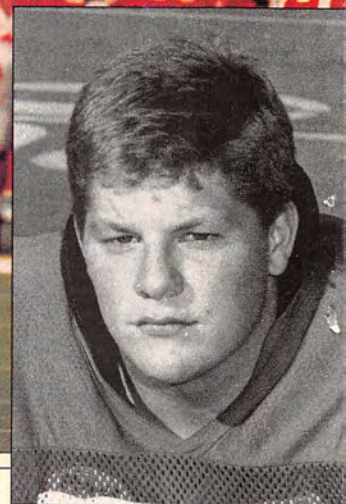
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We want to hear your comments and we will try to answer your questions. Please send them to "Letters," P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Neb., 68501. Send pictures of your favorite Husker fan; we'll print it! ■





Erik (No. 61 above) provides the Nebraska line with his senior experience while redshirt freshman Zach (No. 72 below) brings youth and a desire to learn.



FAMILY

Offensive linemen typically form a close-knit group, but a pair of current Cornhuskers bring a special relationship to the field.

Brothers Erik and Zach Wiegert from Fremont, Neb., are at last playing together on the same team as members of Nebraska's beefed-up offensive front.

Erik, a fifth-year senior, and Zach, a redshirt freshman, were always too far apart age-wise to compete with one another until this season. Finally, against Arizona State Sept. 28, Zach and Erik played at the same time for about 10 plays.

"Afterward, you kind of appreciate it. It's something to be proud of," Erik says. "In practice or a game, it's all business. He's just another teammate. You really don't worry that that's my brother."

Erik did notice, however, when Zach trotted onto the Sun Devil field during the first series of the second quarter for his first Husker action while a game was still in doubt.

"I can remember back to my first game," Erik says. "I remember how nervous I was and I thought he was probably experiencing the same thing."

The Wiegerts have shared many similar events throughout their lives.

Both sons of Hedy Wiegert attended Fremont Bergan High School, where each earned all-class, all-state honors as senior members of Coach Joe Vojtech's football teams. Zach and Erik also participated in track and field and led their respective basketball teams.

Although other schools displayed an interest in the Wiegerts, both awaited and accepted scholarship offers from Nebraska.

"The only trip I took was to Nebraska," Erik says. "It would have been fun to take other trips, but I never even thought about playing anywhere but Nebraska."

Zach did take an unofficial recruiting trip to Washington, where his mother was living at the time, but immediately accepted Tom Osborne's scholarship offer.

Mother, though she did not push her sons into attending NU, took pride in their decisions to attend the same school where their uncle, Wayne Weber, earned football letters in 1965-66.

The Wiegerts are following a family tradition of athletics that includes their grandfather Wayne Weber, Sr., who coached Osborne at Hastings College and NU Offensive Line Coach Milt Tenopir in grade school.

"The main thing is I also know they're getting an excellent education,"

Hedy says. "Tom Osborne is a wonderful man. As a parent, I know he's deeply

concerned about the boys. I think he makes the boys realize that football may be a temporary thing."

Another person took a special interest in where Zach and Erik went to play college football.

Vojtech, whose teams traditionally rank high in Nebraska's C-1 Class, runs a program similar to NU's in terms of work ethic and concern for players, according to the Wiegerts.

"He never would have forgiven us if we hadn't come to Nebraska," Erik said. "He wanted us to come here."

The brothers came to Lincoln after starring on both offense and defense at Bergan. Erik recorded 122 total tackles as a senior, including 68 unassisted and 17 for loss, while Zach had 67 total tackles playing in just five games as a senior after missing the first six because of mononucleosis.

Husker coaches gave Erik a choice of offense or defense and he decided on offense, primarily because of NU's tradition of linemen.

Zach says he was a "destined offensive lineman. Some of it had to be Erik did so well on offense and my senior year I played more offense."

Erik started at offensive left tackle for NU's junior varsity team in 1987 before redshirting his second year in Lincoln. His younger brother began practicing with the varsity after only three or four days of workouts as a freshman, then coaches determined he would redshirt.

Zach ranked as a second-teamer last spring, "which was a real big shock to me," and is currently listed as the backup

By Rod Henkel



Zach (right) followed in big brother Erik's footsteps even as a kid.

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at right tackle.

While Zach expects to remain a tackle, Erik has occupied each position on the offensive line with the exception of center.

The older brother started two games at right tackle as a sophomore when All-American Doug Glaser was sidelined by a broken big toe. He played the rest of the season as an alternate right guard with Bill Bobbora and finished with action in 10 games that season.

Last year, Erik started four of Nebraska's first five games at right guard, missed the Missouri game because of a jammed neck, and then switched to left guard and played as the alternate behind Jim Wanek.

Since the Huskers returned just two of seven experienced tackles in 1991, Erik moved back to left tackle, where he started the first three games. He started at left guard against Arizona State.

"He's a very intelligent player," Tenopir says. "When we're going to move kids Erik is the first one to come to mind because he does pick things up well. He's a guy that can adjust to moving from one position to another."

Erik sees benefits in having played four different offensive line positions.

"As far as knowledge of the game, it's helped me quite a bit," he says. "It sounds difficult, and the first couple of days it was, but I'm getting used to it."

Erik can share his vast knowledge of the offensive line techniques with his brother and he does. Actually, Erik assists Zach with many aspects of college.

Even before he graduated from high school, Zach would visit his brother in Lincoln and hang out with offensive linemen. He moved in with Erik soon after his senior year and benefitted from lifting weights throughout the summer with older Huskers.

"If I have a problem, I can always talk to him at home about it," Zach says. "He helped me organize myself a little better. My freshman year went better because of him."

The brothers consider themselves close friends as well as roommates. That has not always been the case.

They used to fight to the point Erik says they were notorious for it.

"I used to torture him every once in a while when he would annoy me," Erik says. "Once he got up to 300 pounds, it was a lot of work to torture him."

Hedy Wiegert remembers up and

down times between Erik and Zach, admitting a normal rivalry existed because of athletics.

She worried whether the brothers made a good decision when they decided to live together at college. She is no longer concerned.

"Their friendship has grown so much since he's been down there," Hedy says. "Erik has nothing but compliments for his brother and vice versa and that wasn't always the case. A lot of that has to do with maturity."

Zach naturally grew up in the shadow of Erik following three years behind.

Since he played the same positions, and even wore the same jersey number, as Erik, Zach occasionally watched films of his older brother when learning techniques.

"People expected me to be good in high school because my brother was," says Zach, who preferred to have a positive brother to follow. "I'd rather have a brother that was successful than have a brother who didn't do anything and you don't have a good example set for you."

Some folks went so far as to say the only reason Zach received a Nebraska scholarship was because of Erik's presence on the Husker squad.

"I've always wanted to be my own person," Zach says. "I think the last year or so I've proven I'm my own player. I don't think anybody down here thinks I'm down here because my brother's here."

Zach's quick entrance into the Husker lineup goes against the norm at Nebraska, where offensive linemen often don't see prime varsity action until their fourth or fifth year.

His size, plus the absence of veteran offensive tackles, have permitted Zach an early start.

Seniors Brian Boerboom and Ray Reifenrath are the lone returning experienced tackles, while Zach and fellow redshirt freshman Rob Zatechka and sophomore Lance Lundberg are the other players on the depth chart at tackle. "We're not real deep at the tackle position," Tenopir says.

And Zach is one of those benefitting from the situation. "He's come in at a time when he can contribute right away," says Erik. "They're lucky enough they're getting experience as freshmen."

NU coaches altered their thinking since last season and added weight to their offensive linemen. Instead of long-distance running, linemen concentrated

more on sprints and less strenuous exercises that cut weight.

The result is seven players on the offensive line depth chart listed at 300 pounds or more, including Lundberg, Zatechka, Boerboom, Reifenrath, Dave Jensen, and the Wiegerts.

"We got a lot stronger and weren't tearing ourselves down with a lot of running," Erik says. "You have a more confident feeling. You feel like you can handle people better out there. This year, I think we have a better feeling that if we need a couple of yards, we have people up front who can get the job done."

Zach's size is one reason he has sprinted to the top of the tackle list.

"If all things go well for him, he could be as good a player as we've had around here at his position because he's so big and mobile," Tenopir says. "Erik has already made a tremendous contribution and Zach will too barring any injuries. Both of them are good football players."

The brothers had no idea they would become good enough to be Huskers during their youth.

When the Wiegerts returned to Fre-

mont from Omaha when Erik was in junior high, he was "a skinny split end in eighth grade." After putting on between 80-90 pounds during the next two years, he started at offensive tackle for Bergan as a sophomore.

"I never saw myself as a football player until my sophomore year," Erik says.

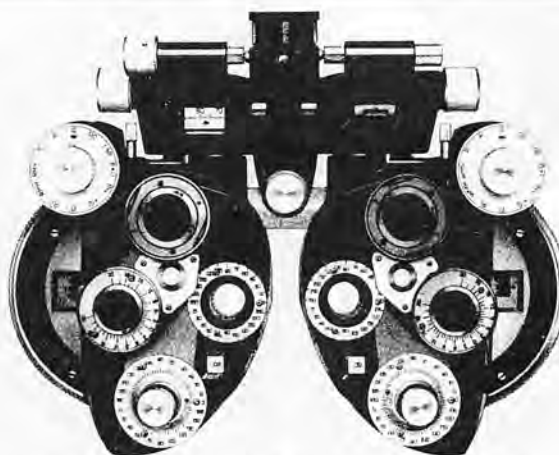
Zach always had the size. He played in a football league as a fifth grader, but could not the following fall because he exceeded the weight limits. In seventh grade, he was instantly a lineman. "When he was a sophomore, he was wearing the same clothing as Erik did as a senior," Hedy says.

Hedy, who raised her boys as a single parent, paid the price for her sons' size. "She deserves a lot of credit," Erik says. "We never went hungry."

Hedy gladly welcomed a break in her high grocery bills when Erik and Zach went off to college.

"I'm thankful that the University is now feeding them," she says. "They've always been very good eaters."

"We have a grill we abused all summer," Erik says. "It would be scary to see how much we eat." ■



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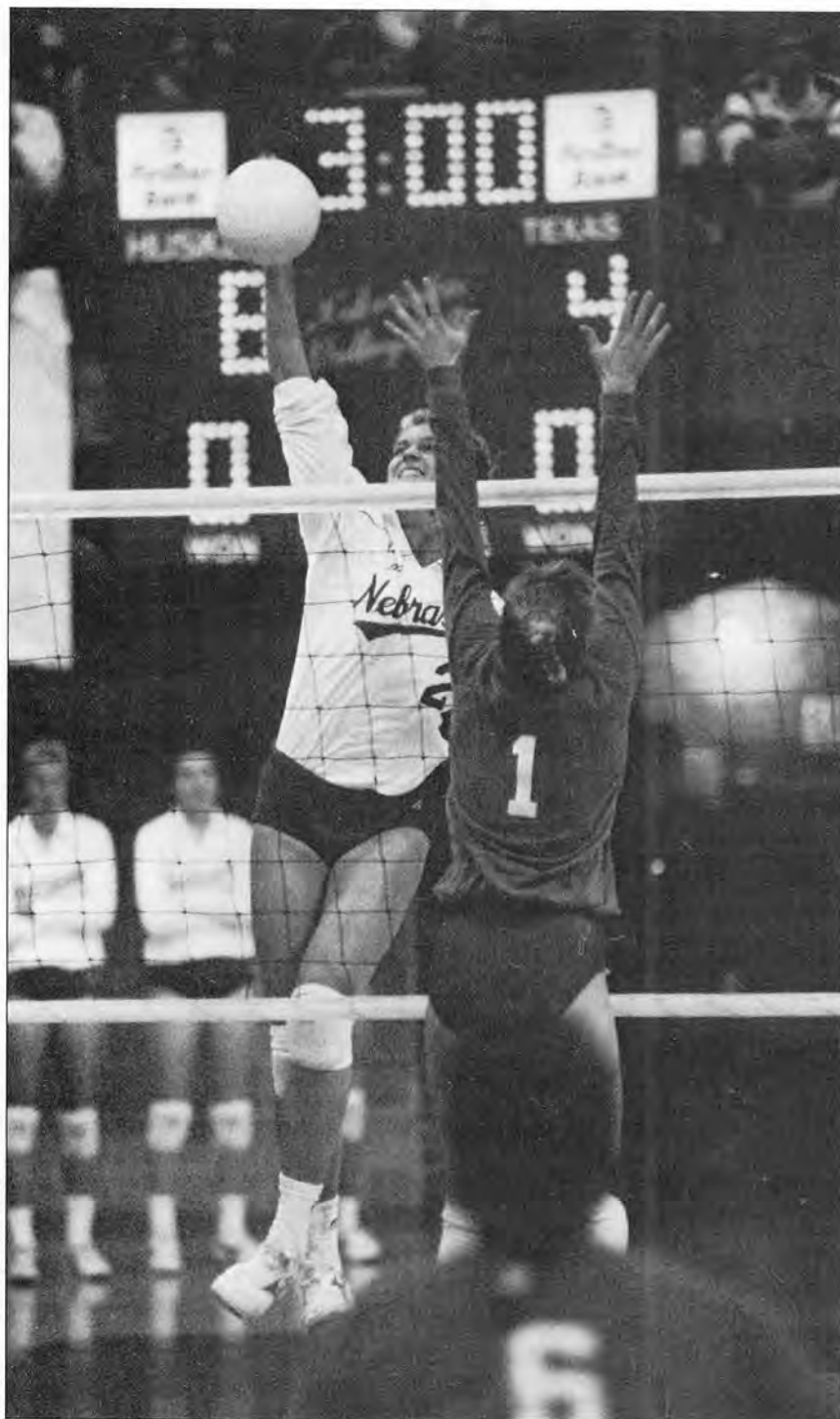
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NU STRONG IN ALL-SPORTS

by Dirk Maley



Stephanie Thater set a Big Eight record with 31 kills in the championship match against UCLA in the Runza Invitational.

Nebraskans can, and should be proud of what the University of Nebraska accomplished last season in football — another season with at least nine wins, a tie for second with Oklahoma in the final league standings, another bowl appearance and yet another Top 20 ranking at season's end.

At the same time, Nebraskans can, and should be equally proud of what NU accomplished in numerous other sports last season.

NU won Big Eight championships in the following sports — men's and women's swimming, women's indoor and outdoor track and volleyball — while finishing second in these sports — men's and women's gymnastics, women's basketball and men's indoor and outdoor track. (Actually, NU finished in a tie for second in women's basketball.)

Meanwhile, NU finished third in men's basketball, wrestling, men's cross country and women's golf and placed fourth in men's and women's tennis and women's cross country.

NU was fifth in the conference in men's golf and women's softball and was sixth in baseball. That, by the way, was NU's lowest finish in any sport.

Overall, NU performed well enough to win the Big Eight's mythical all-sports title for a seventh straight year.

The all-sports title is determined using a system in which schools are awarded points on an 8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis based on final conference standings. In case of a tie, points are combined and split evenly.

NU scored 130.5 points overall in the competition, earning 65.5 points in the 11 sports offered for men and 65 points in the 10 sports offered for women.

Iowa State, which won Big Eight titles in men's and women's cross country and men's indoor and outdoor track, finished with 111 points. ISU earned 65 points in the sports offered for men and 46 points in the sports offered for women.

Oklahoma scored 99 points overall in finishing third in the all-sports competition for the 1990-91 school year. OU, which competes in 18 of the 21 sports offered by the conference, scored 52 points in the sports offered for men and 47 in the sports offered for women. OU won confer-

ence titles in three sports during the 1990-91 school year — men's and women's gymnastics and women's golf.

Kansas was fourth in the all-sports competition with 90.5 combined points, followed by Oklahoma State with 80.5 points. Missouri was next with 70 points, followed by Kansas State with 59.5 points and Colorado with 56 points.

It should be noted that Nebraska and Iowa State are the only two Big Eight schools to field teams in all 21 intercollegiate sports offered by the Big Eight Conference.

However, a close look at the numbers does show NU to have the strongest overall athletic program.

NU scored an average of 6.2 points per sport during the 1990-91 school year while OU, which had the second best average, scored 5.5 points per sport.

Congratulations to all persons associated with NU athletics this past year for a job well done. And good luck to those of you competing this year. Hopefully, through your efforts, NU can win an eighth straight all-sports championship following the 1991-92 school year.

VOLLEYBALL

Two sports NU expects to do well in this season are volleyball and cross country.

Thus far in volleyball, NU is 13-3 on the season and ranked ninth nationally in the American Volleyball Coaches Association poll.

NU opened the season by winning the Kentucky Kickoff Classic with victories over Wisconsin, Texas Tech and host Kentucky. NU then posted wins over Missouri, Kansas State, Wyoming and Kansas State a second time to raise its record to 7-0.

NU dropped its next three matches — at home to then third-ranked UCLA, and on the road to ninth-ranked Brigham Young and 11th-ranked New Mexico — to then fall to 7-3. It was NU's longest losing streak since 1981, when NU lost to Hawaii, Texas-Arlington and Pacific in succession.

NU, led by Coach Terry Pettit, then responded with six straight wins against Colorado, Maryland, Georgia, Kansas, Illinois and Iowa State to raise its record to 13-3.

Nebraska's cross country squads won the team titles, thanks in part to David Iteffa...



...and Fran ten Bensel.



Individually, 6-foot-2 middle blocker Stephanie Thater has been sensational through NU's first 13 matches

this season.

Twice already, the junior from Union, Mo., has earned recognition as



Thater, NU's 6-2 sensation, has twice earned Big Eight volleyball Player of the Week honors.

the Big Eight volleyball Player of the Week.

Against UCLA in the championship match of the Runza Invitational, Thater set NU records for a four-game match with 31 kills and 13 blocking assists. The 31 kills are also a Big Eight record.

Another Husker to have earned Big Eight Player of the Week honors this season is outside hitter Eileen Shannon, a junior from Elmhurst, Ill. Shannon earned the distinction for her play against Kansas and Illinois in which she recorded 27 kills. Against Illinois, she became the eighth NU volleyball player to record 1,000 kills in a career.

CROSS COUNTRY

In cross country, the NU men's and women's teams are off to an equally

fine start.

At the Woody Greeno-Nebraska Invitational held at Lincoln's Pioneers Park, NU's men's and women's squads won the team titles, thanks in part to a strong showing by David Iteffa on the men's side and Fran ten Bensel on the women's.

Iteffa, just a sophomore, covered the men's 8,000-meter course in a meet record time of 24 minutes, 54 seconds.

Ten Bensel, a junior, covered the women's 5,000-meter course with a winning time of 17 minutes, 13 seconds. In the men's team standings, NU was first with 35 points, followed by Wichita State and Nebraska-Kearney, both with 90 points.

Other teams competing in the men's division were: Northwest Missouri State, 117 points; Nebraska Wesleyan,

141; Hastings College, 151; South Dakota, 152; Barton County (Kan.) Community College, 169; Creighton, 238; Wayne State, 255; and Cloud County (Kan.) Community College, 317.

After Iteffa, NU's highest finish was posted by Renier Henning, who finished seventh overall with a time of 26:04. Two other Huskers placed in the top 10. Kevin Miller placed eighth with a time of 26:05 and Tom Banks was 10th with a time of 26:11.

In the women's portion of the meet, NU's Lisa Graham finished the course with a time of 17:55 finishing second behind ten Bensel.

Theresa Stelling, Michele Schaefer and Stephanie Quandt finished fourth, fifth and seventh, respectively, for the NU women's team.

Stelling covered the course in 18:12. It took Schaefer 18:41 to finish, and Quandt took only 18:57 to complete the race.

NU won the women's title with 19 points while Barton County (Kan.) Community College finished second with 52 points. Nebraska-Omaha was third with 124 points. Other teams competing in the women's race were: Nebraska-Kearney, 125 points; Creighton, 159; Concordia, 174; Nebraska Wesleyan, 178; Northwest Missouri State, 194; Doane College, 215; Wayne State, 271; Hastings College, 287; and Cloud County College Community, 291.

After the Woody Greeno-Invitational, NU's cross country teams traveled to Minneapolis to compete in the Minnesota Invitational.

Again, it was Iteffa and ten Bensel who led NU's men's and women's teams.

Iteffa was the top finisher for the NU men's team finishing 19th overall. As a team, NU was 13th.

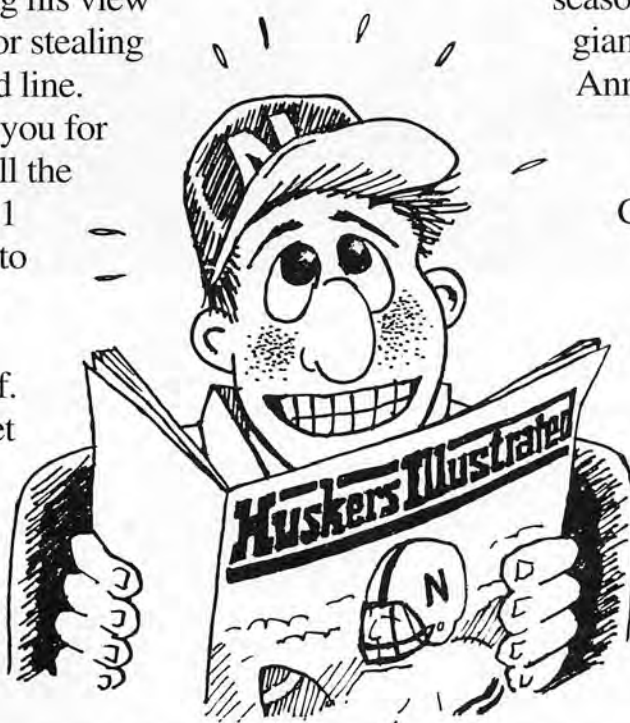
Ten Bensel, from Arapahoe, Neb., was the top finisher among the 140 runners entered in the women's portion of the meet.

The All-American finished the race in 17:12, nine seconds ahead of runner-up Sandy Ham of Colorado State. As a team, NU finished third. ■

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LAST MINUTE HEROICS

A little more than six minutes into the fourth quarter, Kansas State led Nebraska 31-24. Not only that, the Wildcats had the ball at the Cornhusker 16-yard line, facing a third-and-two.

Tom Osborne admitted he was "concerned" at that point. The majority of a Homecoming crowd of 76,209 was too.

Nebraska had given little evidence of being able to stop Kansas State. The Wildcats had converted 8-of-14 third downs.

This time, however, Kansas State's Eric Gallon gained nothing in the middle, leaving Tate Wright to attempt a 32-yard field goal.

Early in the second quarter, Wright kicked a 26-yard field goal.

The ball was snapped, set down and kicked. Kansas State players signaled good. "I thought it was good and I pretty much turned to the side," Wright said afterward. "Then a couple of guys are hugging me and saying 'Good job.' And then I turn around and they're saying 'no good.'"

The kick had gone wide to the left, according to the officials.

"What they say goes," Wright said. "It was either good or close. What I saw was that the ball either went just inside or over the pole and after it passed through, it blew over."

If Wright's kick had been good, Kansas State's lead would have been

10 points with 8:35 remaining. Instead, Nebraska took possession at its own 20-yard line and drove 80 yards on seven plays in just 1:56 to tie the score at 31.

The biggest plays in the series were I-back Derek Brown's dive for a 3-yard gain on a fourth-and-one at the Kansas State 47-yard line with about 7:30 remaining and a 41-yard pass from quarterback Keithen McCant to tight end Johnny Mitchell on the next play.

McCant and Mitchell both had to scramble on the play; McCant to avoid pursuing Kansas State defenders and Mitchell to get open. "It was all jammed up inside," said Mitchell, who turned out toward the sideline, isolating himself on a linebacker.

McCant's pass was right on target and Mitchell hauled it in. "I was wishing it was a little farther so I could score," Mitchell said.

Brown took care of that on the next play from 3 yards out.

Less than two minutes later, Nebraska had the ball back at its own 40-

yard line. Again, the Cornhusker offense moved quickly down the field, this time without facing a third down.

After a 25-yard run by fullback Lance Lewis to the Kansas State 1-yard line, Brown leaped over a pile of offensive and defensive linemen, colliding with a defender head on as he crossed the goal line.



(Above) The Black Shirts got to K-State quarterback Paul Watson late to preserve the slim lead, but it was Derek Brown (right) that was responsible for the lead.



When McCant had to go to the air, Johnny Mitchell (left) became one of his favorite targets.

With 2:47 left in the game, Nebraska had a 38-31 lead to protect.

For several anxious moments, however, it appeared the Cornhusker defense wouldn't be able to. With less than two minutes remaining in the game, Kansas State had a first-and-10 at the Nebraska 11-yard line.

Based on what had happened to that

point, there was little reason to think the Cornhuskers would be able to keep Kansas State from scoring.

But they did. For four downs. After Curtis Madden gained 4 yards up the middle on first down, three passes by Wildcat quarterback Paul Watson were incomplete.

The last, on fourth-and-six from the Nebraska 7-yard line, was intended for tight end Russ Campbell.

Only 36 seconds remained.

That final, four-down sequence "was nerve-wracking," said the Cornhuskers' Brown, who rushed for 145 yards and three touchdowns despite aggravating a thigh injury suffered during the Oklahoma State game.

Early in the fourth quarter, Brown took himself out of the game.

Brown returned, however. When asked how his thigh felt, "I told Coach it felt fine," he said.

Even though it didn't?

"Not really," Brown said. "Basically, I just wanted to get back in there and make a big play."

That attitude typified Nebraska's play, offensively and defensively, in the fourth quarter against Kansas State.

"Last year's team might have given up, but this team will fight you," said McCant, whose poise belied the fact that prior to this season he was seldom used, lower-unit reserve.

"I was just concentrating on keeping

myself calm," he said. "I just wanted everybody to keep their poise. I knew we could do it because this is a team of fighters."

Brown agreed with that assessment. "We're not giving up this year," he said. "Last year against Colorado, they got up on us and that was it. But not this year."

There was no panic on the Nebraska sideline, according to Cornhusker middle guard Pat Engelbert.

"Even when we were behind, I was having fun. That's why you play, to see how far you can be pushed," and still come back, he said.

Engelbert wasn't concerned that Nebraska had been expected by most fans to win easily against Kansas State. For him, a challenge is a challenge, regardless of the opposition.

He won't remember that the Cornhuskers barely escaped losing to a Kansas State team that hasn't defeated Nebraska since 1968 or that they won by only seven points. "Scores don't mean much to me," said Engelbert.

"I'll remember that we won, that we were behind by a touchdown and put up a good effort to come back."

Defensive tackle John Parrella said he never thought the Cornhuskers would lose, even when Kansas State was in position to take a 10-point lead. Engelbert kept the defense calm and focussed, according to Parrella.



"We're just really pleased we won the game," said Osborne, who seemed exasperated by his inability to convince fans that Kansas State was a worthy opponent.

"When they beat Kansas that should have told you something," he said, referring to Kansas State's 16-12 victory against the Jayhawks the week before in Manhattan, Kan.

The Wildcats "beat them straight up. They're beating teams they were losing to four or five years ago. They're not bad."

After his team's comeback victory against Kansas, Kansas State Coach Bill Snyder lashed out at the media for not giving the Wildcats the respect they've earned.

"Bill Snyder got mad last week and I can understand why," Osborne said. "They're a good team."

"Probably a lot of our people are conditioned by the gamblers. No matter what we see on film and say about a team, once the line comes out, that's the official word."

Nebraska Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride said Kansas State's success was evidence that parity is the rule rather than the exception in college football now.

"Mark my words folks, don't take anybody for granted," he said. "This was real, like college football is sometimes supposed to be."

"You haven't seen many of these games around here, but when it comes

down to wins and losses, there's still a 'W' up there. And there's not a coach on our staff who isn't proud of his players," McBride said.

Even so, McBride didn't try to gloss over Kansas State's offensive success. The Wildcats finished with 452 total yards, including 340 passing. Watson completed 26 of 46 passes.

"We've been struggling all year with the pass. If you give people time, they're going to complete them," said McBride. Plus, "they've got great receivers. And I don't mean good receivers great ones."

Even though Nebraska sacked Watson eight times, "we had difficulty getting to him," Osborne said.

"We're just not blessed with as many great individual pass rushers as we have been in the past. But give the defense credit. It hung in there four times inside the 10."

That's the bottom line. Despite all its problems defensively, despite the frustration of a Kansas State touchdown scored when the ball was stripped from Lewis after the Cornhuskers thought the whistle had blown, Nebraska still won.

"There's no fortune in this game," said Kansas State center Quentin Neujahr, a graduate of Utica, Neb., Centennial High School. "They've got great tradition. Nebraska expects to win, and it did."

"It doesn't matter how you do it, just as long as you do."

Because of Kansas State's tradition

of losing and its lack of success against Nebraska, "I'm sure the emotional readiness and the emotional intensity wasn't quite the same," Osborne said. "In some ways I'm concerned; in some ways I'm pleased."

"Overall, I'd like to emphasize, this isn't bad."

"Whew, it was scary," said Mitchell. "My heart was pounding. It was a great game."

It was a game from which the Cornhuskers will benefit, he said. "When another game comes up like this, we'll be ready for it."

Strong safety Steve Carmer reiterated that point. "We came out a little flat because of the K-State mentality," Carmer said. "Now we know that everybody in the Big Eight wants us and everybody in the Big Eight is pretty darn good, too."

"The good thing is, we learned and we won. I never had any doubt that we'd win. There was a sense of urgency on that last play, more than the rest of the game, and we showed a lot of character to hold on."

Everyone in the 179th consecutive sellout crowd at Memorial Stadium stayed to watch the final, dramatic seconds. No one left early, as has almost always been the case when Kansas State visited Lincoln.

The partisan crowd counted down those final seconds: "Five, four, three, two, one . . ."

Nebraska 38, Kansas State 31. ■



McCant (left) provided leadership late in the game, which he said last year's squad would probably have lost.

Too Close for Comfort

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne often highlights the strengths of future opponents, but Husker fans seldom take him seriously.

His pre-game hype of Kansas State, however, proved not to be just talk.

Kansas State, more than a 30-point underdog entering week two of Big Eight Conference play, owned four leads over Nebraska, the latest one lasting until less than seven minutes remained, before NU squeaked out a 38-31 Homecoming victory.

Husker I-back Derek Brown scored his third touchdown of the day from the 1 with 2:47 left to give Nebraska its first lead of the second half, but the sell-out crowd of 76,209 in Memorial Stadium still held its breath.

Not until NU's Black Shirts forced

two Kansas State incomplete passes at the Nebraska with 7:36 on the clock could the Huskers relax.

"When they beat Kansas last week, men, that should have told you they are a good football team," Osborne said

during his postgame press conference.

KSU Coach Bill Snyder became upset following his club's 16-12 come-from-behind win against Kansas a week earlier when reporters credited luck for the victory.



Leaping into the end zone became a habit for (No. 21) Derek Brown.

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Keithen McCant's touchdown after a 32-yard run gave the Huskers a 14-7 edge late in the first quarter.

Right: Lance Lewis averaged nearly 13 yards a pop against the 'Cats.

The Wildcats get no respect, especially from Husker fans. Callers to an Omaha radio show Saturday morning made predictions of a Husker victory over K-State by such margins as 77-36 and 56-7.

But tradition and recent history provide ammunition for such outlandish expectations.

Nebraska entered Saturday's contest with a commanding 63-10-2 advantage in the 80-year series with Kansas State, having won 22 in a row since K-State's 12-0 victory in 1968.

In the 11 most-recent meetings, the Huskers have averaged a 41-point winning margin, the lowest being 26 in 1983, when the Wildcats last held a lead over Nebraska.

"Maybe people ought to say, 'Hey, that's remarkable,'" said Osborne, referring to the long winning streak. "Every week around the country you see people that don't get it done and we came pretty close today to not getting it done. I'm sure we'll catch a lot of flak this week about playing bad and being a bad football team and all that, but that's athletics.

"This is not all bad. The fact that we came back and scored a couple of times



in the fourth quarter may serve our players well."

Brown capped a seven-play, 80-yard drive with 6:49 left in the final period with a 3-yard run to tie the game at 31-31. The touchdown came one play after quarterback Keithen McCant scrambled and connected with tight end Johnny Mitchell on a 41-yard pass.

"I bought myself some time weaving in and out and I saw Johnny break,"

McCant said. "I was just concentrating on keeping myself calm and I told the guys, 'Let's keep our poise.'"

Nebraska marched 60 yards in six plays on its next possession following a Kansas State punt before Brown dove for the game-winner. The drive featured a 25-yard sprint by fullback Lance Lewis, a Scott City, Kan., native who rushed for a career-high 79 yards, and a 19-yard keeper by McCant.

Kenny Wilhite (No. 19) had a knack for upending Andre Coleman.

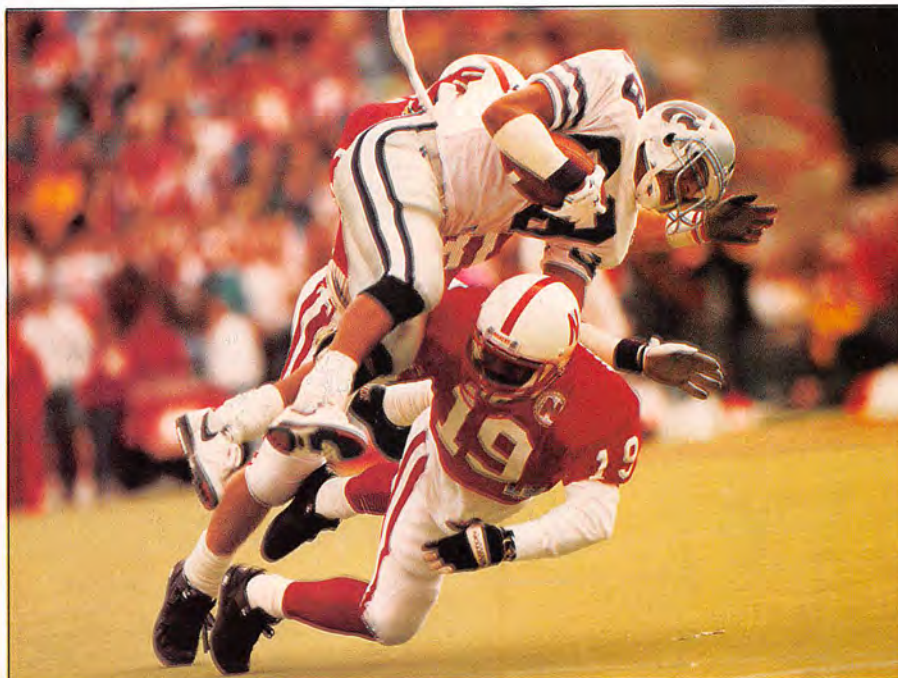
"I thought we played well at the end. We've got a good offense," Osborne said. "I guess I'd have felt better if we'd scored in the 40s or 50s. Offensively we stood around a lot. We were on the sidelines a lot today."

Kansas State ran 80 plays compared to 68 for Nebraska and held a 33:33-26:27 advantage in time of possession.

The Wildcats moved from their 27 to the NU 7 for the final tense moments, thanks to completions of 30, 20 and 11 yards by Paul Watson to Michael Smith, Russ Campbell and Frank Hernandez.

Husker middle guard Pat Engelbert tackled KSU back Curtis Madden after a 4-yard gain on first down before Kenny Wilhite broke up a pass at the goal line. Following two KSU time-outs, Watson failed to hit Smith in the end zone, and NU linebacker Trev Alberts broke up a pass intended for Campbell.

"I knew it was over," said Husker strong safety Steve Carmer about the fourth-down incompletion. "It was a relief, really. I heard mention in the locker room that last year we



RECAP at a GLANCE	9/7 Utah St.	9/14 Colo. St.	9/21 Washington	9/28 Arizona St.	10/12 OSU	10/19 KSU	SEASON AVG.
First Downs	43	29	15	19	21	22	25
Yards Rushing	617	529	135	253	273	363	362
Yards Passing	170	167	173	63	231	107	152
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-1	1-1	0-0	1-1	1-1	1-1
Time of Possession	16:12	28:27	24:22	34:43	25:10	26:27	26:13
Third Down Conversions	3-7	9-15	6-16	8-18	5-10	2-9	6-13
Final Score	59	71	21	19	49	38	43



Wildcats in the end zone became an all-too-familiar sight.

probably would have lost this game. I thought we showed a lot of character in the second half."

Kansas State posted a variety of numbers that clearly indicate the two Big Eight schools are closer to being of the same caliber—at least Saturday they were.

Nebraska held a slim 470-452 edge in total yards as the Huskers gained 363 on the ground. K-State converted eight of 17 third-down attempts, completed 26 of 46 passes for 340 yards and gained 26 first downs compared to 22 by NU.

The Wildcats' totals for points, first downs, and offensive yards marked all-time bests versus Nebraska and KSU became the first squad since Florida State in the 1990 Fiesta Bowl not to turn the ball over against the Huskers.

MEMORIES

NEBRASKA 38

KANSAS ST. 31

October 19, 1991

Tyrone Hughes' 46-yard kick off return led to a Nebraska field goal that evened the halftime score at 17-17.







During the first part of Saturday's game, the Huskers themselves may have been flat emotionally.

When Watson hit Smith with a 7-yard touchdown strike to start the scoring on KSU's initial possession, the mood changed.

"We could have been a little flat emotionally, not that we took Kansas State lightly," McCant said. "From the start, as you could see, we knew we were in a ball game."

Black Shirts sacked Watson eight times for losses totalling 55 yards, with Travis Hill and Alberts each recording two, but the Wildcat quarterback avoided several other heavy rushes and did not throw an interception.

Smith finished with 10 catches for 172 yards, while running back Eric Gallon caught six for 82 yards, Hernandez caught four for 30, and Campbell caught three for 34.

"Their quarterback was really mobile," Engelbert said. "He scrambled really well. A couple of times our containment broke down. It seemed like you would keep going and going and never quite get there."

McCant, who rushed for 100 yards and passed for 107, and Brown scored consecutive touchdowns late in the first quarter to give NU its first lead at 14-7. After Kansas State countered with 10 straight points, Byron Bennett provided a 17-17 halftime tie with a 33-yard field goal.

The 4-2 Wildcats took a 24-17 lead

with 9:15 remaining in the third quarter on a weird play. Strong safety C.J. Masters stole the ball from Lewis and raced 40 yards with the fumble recovery for a touchdown after action appeared to have stopped.

"I thought he was stopped and several of our players came off the field and said they heard a whistle," Osborne said. "That was kind of unbelievable to me, that play. I didn't think anything

Johnny Mitchell and Jon Bostick teamed up for 91 yards through the air.



The Wildcats and Eric Gallon (No. 1) kept the Black Shirts on their toes all game.

about it and all of a sudden he came out of there with the ball. That could have been the ball game."

McCant and Mitchell hooked up on a 4-yard TD pass to climax a nine-play, 67-yard drive that tied the game at 24-24 with 5:40 left in the third quarter, but K-State regained the lead less than three minutes later.

The Wildcats' Tate Wright just missed a 32-yard field goal attempt that would have given KSU a 10-point cushion with 8:35 to play before the Huskers rallied to improve to 5-1.

NU coaches and players agreed that Saturday's tight game may pay more dividends than a blowout. They liked the tension.

"I like the close ones; it keeps you involved," Engelbert said. "Even when it was 31-24, I was still having fun."

And the Huskers appreciated the outcome.

"We're just really pleased we won the game," Osborne said. "They are legitimate. I think they're capable of winning against most anybody in the league. They'll have to have things go right, like they did today. They could have done it."

Maybe Big Red fans should start listening. ■

McCant, Legette Stayed Busy

Nebraska quarterback Keithen McCant brought the Huskers back four times Saturday to bring back memories of his high school days.

The fifth-year senior from Grand Prairie, Texas, earned Player of the Game honors for his role in NU's 38-31 victory against Kansas State Saturday. Tyrone Legette was named Defensive Player of the Game.

McCant said his high school team earned the nickname "Cardiac Gophers" during his junior year because of several come-from-behind victories. He contributed to Nebraska's 23rd consecutive win over K-State with key runs and passes.

Nebraska gained its first lead against KSU on McCant's 32-yard keeper with 1:07 left in the opening quarter. After the Wildcats gained a 24-17 advantage, McCant engineered a nine-play, 67-yard march that featured two passes to Jon Bostick for a total of 38 yards and a 4-yard TD toss to Johnny Mitchell.

McCant contributed an 8-yard scramble and a 41-yard completion to Mitchell after he avoided KSU rushers during the touchdown drive that knotted the game at 31-31. And he gained 19 yards on a keeper and found Bostick with an 8-yard completion as the Huskers drove for the eventual game-winner.

McCant ran his season rushing totals to 425 yards with a career-high 100-yard effort against KSU on 13 carries. He also completed eight of 13 passes for 107

yards, including three to Bostick who extended his string of consecutive games with a reception to 13.

"There are still things I can work on and do better," McCant said. "I guess I



**Above: Tyrone Legette
Left: Keithen McCant**

will start again Monday."

I-back Derek Brown recorded his sixth-consecutive 100-yard rushing game, picking up 145 yards on a career-high 28 carries, while equaling a career high with three touchdowns.

On defense, Legette totaled the most tackles among the Black Shirts with eight, including seven unassisted.

The Husker secondary experienced a busy afternoon as Steve Carmer and Tyrone Byrd each recorded six tackles and two deflected passes.

Mike Petko made six tackles to lead Husker linebackers, while Travis Hill, David White and Trev Alberts each had two tackles for losses. ■

E X C E L L E N C E



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The Missouri Tigers looked to have things going their way before a 55-7 hammering at Colorado two weeks ago. In the opener against Illinois, an Illini receiver dropped a sure touchdown pass, allowing the Tigers to escape with a 23-19 win. Two weeks later, quarterback Phil Johnson scored on a two-point conversion near the end of the game to give Mizzou a 27-27 tie against Indiana. Replays clearly showed that Johnson's knee touched the turf before the ball crossed the goal line. When Memphis State came to town, Missouri rattled off 31 points in the second quarter thanks to several turnovers deep in Memphis State territory. Losses to Baylor (47-21), Colorado and last week's mauling of Oklahoma State (41-7) give the Tigers a 3-2-1 record

heading into Lincoln.

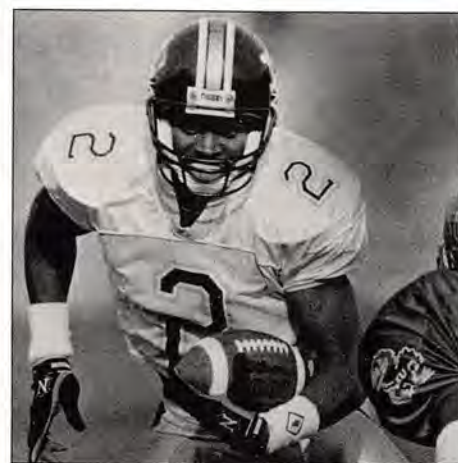
"After today (sliding by K-State 38-31), we have to be ready for every team," Derek Brown said. "We have to prepare well this week for Missouri."

Johnson (6-5, 206, so.) has matured into a reliable quarterback and has helped ease the pain of losing graduated starter Kent Kiefer. Last season Johnson stepped in when Kiefer went down with an injury and completed 59 percent of his throws for 785 yards and five scores. He picked up where he left off this season, leading MU to its best start in nearly a decade.

As always, Missouri has great receivers. Flanker Skip Leach (5-9, 170, sr.) is a three-year letterman who is just now getting his turn to shine. Split end Victor Bailey (6-4, 209, jr.) led the team last season with 26 catches for 396 yards and two scores. He is a cinch to eclipse those marks this season.

Four starters return along the offensive line, including potential all-star right tackle Russ "The Bus" McCullough. At 6-10 and 320 pounds, the senior is the biggest player in the conference. He finished last season by earning honorable-mention honors by AP, UPI and the coaches. Junior left tackle Doug Hembrough (6-1, 270) is the only rookie on the front.

Transition can be used to describe the defense. Outside linebacker Mike Ringgenberg (6-4, 236, jr.) led the team last season in tackles with 106, but is now in a dogfight with junior Kent Gardner (6-3, 229) to retain his spot. Tom Reiner (6-1, 241, sr.) was slated to start for the second consecutive season at middle linebacker but was moved to an outside spot after junior Will Bass (6-1, 244, jr.) impressed the coaches through the first two games of the season with his hard hits



Victor Bailey: The latest in a long line of quality Tiger receivers.

and heady play.

Starting right defensive end Rick Lyle will be out due to an injury, so look for junior Stacy Elliott (6-4, 248) to get the call. Jon Watkins (6-3, 261, jr.) began fall drills near the bottom of the depth chart at left end but will start against the Huskers.

One of the few places that hasn't felt the wind of change is the inside positions. Tackles Mario Johnson (6-5, 310, sr.) and George Hunt (6-3, 271, so.) return for their second campaign. Johnson is battling his weight — and losing to this point. He wanted to weigh 285 pounds for the season opener, but could not reach his goal.

Free safety Sharron Washington (6-0, 205, sr.) missed spring drills because of grade problems but reclaimed his starting position in the spring. Left cornerback Maurice Benson (6-0, 197, jr.) is the only other returnee in the secondary.

Kicker Jeff Jacke (6-0, 190, jr.) is on track to become Missouri's all-time leading scorer before his career is over.

HUSKERS 2-DEEP

(returning starters in **bold**)

OFFENSE

SE	Jon Bostick	6-2	190	sr.
	Tyrone Hughes	5-10	175	jr.
LT	Erik Wiegert	6-5	300	sr.
	L. Lundberg	6-4	305	so.
LG	Dave Jensen	6-4	305	jr.
	Chris Zyzda	6-2	285	jr.
C	B. Ziegelbein	6-4	275	sr.
	Jim Scott	6-2	260	so.
RG	Will Shields	6-1	295	jr.
	T.J. Slansky	6-5	275	jr.
RT	B. Boerboom	6-7	310	sr.
	Zach Wiegert	6-5	310	fr.
TE	W. Washington	6-2	260	jr.
	J. Mitchell	6-3	260	so.
QB	K. McCant	6-2	200	sr.
	M. Joseph	5-10	180	sr.
FB	Lance Lewis	6-0	225	jr.
	Tim Johnk	5-11	215	sr.
TB	Derek Brown	5-9	180	so.
	Calvin Jones	5-11	205	fr.
WB	Nate Turner	6-2	220	sr.
	A. Muhammad	5-11	175	fr.

DEFENSE

OLB	Travis Hill	6-2	235	jr.
	Lance Gray	6-1	220	so.
LT	K. Ramaekers	6-4	290	so.
	Jamie Liewer	6-4	270	jr.
NG	Pat Engelbert	6-2	265	sr.
	David Noonan	6-3	275	so.
RT	John Parrella	6-5	290	jr.
	Brian Brown	6-6	280	sr.
OLB	David White	6-2	240	jr.
	Trev Alberts	6-4	235	so.
SLB	Mike Petko	6-3	230	sr.
	D. Williams	6-1	250	so.
WLB	M. Anderson	6-2	230	so.
	Ed Stewart	6-0	195	fr.
LCB	Curtis Cotton	6-1	210	sr.
	Kenny Wilhite	5-8	190	jr.
FS	Tyrone Byrd	6-0	175	jr.
	John Reece	6-0	205	so.
SS	Steve Carmer	6-2	210	jr.
	Troy Dumas	6-3	185	fr.
RCB	T. Legette	5-10	180	sr.
	Mike Heins	5-10	185	so.

Key Matchups: NU versus Missouri

Missouri's defense against the Husker rushing game — The Tigers couldn't stop the run against Colorado and it cost them dearly. Nebraska's running game is more polished than the Buffalo version and could rack up more points and yards unless the Tigers can figure out a way to slow down Derek Brown and Company.

Keithen McCant against Sharron Washington — Missouri's free safety is the most talented player in the secondary. Tiger coaches will be relying on him to watch McCant's eyes and try to make the big play (via the interception or big hit). Washington

may also be the last line of defense for Missouri if Nebraska can run on the Tigers like Colorado did. It won't be a good sign if Washington is one of the leading tacklers on the day.

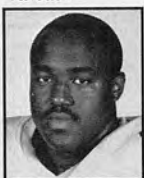
Phil Johnson against the Husker pass rush — Johnson is a quality passer, but is not as effective if he is flushed out of the pocket. If Pat Engelbert and the rest of the Black Shirts can put heat on the sophomore signal-caller, Missouri's offense will be in shambles. Don't expect the Tigers to run the ball very often. Bob Stull knows that the passing game has to be the main weapon to have a chance.

TIGERS

OFFENSE

* indicates player pictured.
Projected starter indicated
by uppcased name.

Tailback



*26 R. KAYHILL
(5-9, 194, Jr)
38 M. Washington
(6-2, 246, So)

Slotback



*2 VICTOR BAILEY
(6-4, 209, Jr)
11 Kenneth Dunn
(5-11, 197, So)

Flanker



*1 SKIP LEACH
(5-9, 170, Sr)
45 Mike Hall
(5-10, 170, Sr)

Quarterback



*14 PHIL JOHNSON
(6-5, 206, So)
12 Jeff Handy
(6-3, 197, Fr)

Split End



*81 KENNY HOLLY
(6-0, 176, So)
82 Joel Heman
(5-11, 180, Fr)

41

*84 LEMMIE WELLS
(6-1, 236, Sr)
83 B. Chamberlain
(6-2, 226, So)



Tight End

57 D. HEMBROUGH
(6-1, 270, Jr)
*71 Tim Alvaradot
(6-7, 287, So)



Left Tackle

79 M. BEDOSKY
(6-5, 305, So)
*62 Matt Pearce
(6-3, 264, So)



Left Guard

*50 BRAD FUNK
(6-3, 285, Jr)
69 Matt Burgess
(6-3, 273, So)



Center

76 D. WRIGHT
(6-4, 275, Sr)
*66 Bob Petrus
(6-5, 265, Jr)



Right Guard

*74 R. McCULLOUGH
(6-10, 320, Sr)
67 Gene Snisky
(6-7, 298, Jr)



Right Tackle

50

Left End



*85 JON WATKINS
(6-3, 261, Jr)
64 Chris Harrison
(6-4, 271, So)

Left Tackle



*97 M. JOHNSON
(6-5, 310, Sr)
51 Artuhur Trass
(6-2, 290, Sr)

Right Tackle



*72 GEORGE HUNT
(6-3, 271, So)
70 Tim Burke
(6-2, 274, Jr)

Right End



*92 S. ELLIOTT
(6-4, 248, Jr)
54 Marcus Martin
(6-3, 232, Jr)

41

O. Linebacker



*49 K. GARDNER
(6-3, 229, Jr)
47 M. Ringgenberg
(6-4, 236, Jr)

M. Linebacker



*41 WILL BASS
(6-1, 244, Jr)
55 Darryl Major
(6-2, 215, Fr)

O. Linebacker



*43 TOM REINER
(6-1, 241, Sr)
39 Travis McDonald
(6-2, 200, Fr)

Left Cornerback



*23 M. BENSON
(6-0, 197, Jr)
6 J. Lenhardt
(6-1, 190 Fr)

Strong Safety



*24 B. SCRIVNER
(6-0, 184, Sr)
28 J. Wilkins
(6-3, 199, Jr)

Free Safety



*18 S. WASHINGTON
(6-2, 220, Sr)
29 Mike Jadlot
(6-5, 197, So)

Right Cornerback



*22 JASON OLIVER
(5-11, 171, So)
15 K. McIntosh
(6-0, 170, Fr)

DEFENSE

TIGERS

x x
x x
0 0 0

FOOTBALL FORECAST

"This has always been a good rivalry
and this game will be closer
than previously thought . . ."

Oct. 26, 1991
Lincoln, Neb.
Huskers vs. Tigers
Kickoff: 1:00 p.m. (CDT)

Claudia Sangster, York-News Times: "Nebraska should be too much for Missouri. The Husker running game continues to roll along and the passing game is coming along too. Anytime you have two backs run for 100 yards like Nebraska did against K-State, you're in good shape.

"I think Tom was pretty unhappy after the game and will really fire them up for the game against the Tigers. They (KSU) showed us that on any given day any team can beat us. They also showed us that our pass defense is still a problem. **Nebraska 38, Missouri 14.**"

Bruce Viergutz, Beatrice Sun: "Nebraska had the scare of its life last week against a much-improved Kansas State team. The Big Eight teams are much more equal now than they have been in recent years. Missouri looked good against the weak OSU team even after the tough loss to Colorado the week before. Nebraska is a good team, but not a great one yet. The Missouri-Nebraska game has always been a good rivalry and this game will be closer than previously thought. Nebraska's defense can score on anyone in the country, but our defense is still average. It'll be a fourth quarter game with **Nebraska winning 31-17.**"

John Ryan, Columbus Telegram: "The Kansas State game proved Nebraska can't wipe its feet on the door-mats of the Big Eight anymore. The Missouri game will be no exception. The Tigers will knock on the door just as the Wildcats did, but the Huskers will try to keep the door closed while keeping hope for the Big Eight title

wide open.

"Nebraska's secondary still has more holes than Swiss cheese and Missouri will probably try to take advantage of that. If they keep it on the ground, look for an old-fashioned Nebraska romp. If they do air it out often, look for another close game and a post-game press conference where Osborne will again shower the opponent with praise. **Nebraska 38, Missouri 24.**"

Nick Hytrek, Daily Nebraskan: "I think the K-State game woke up the Huskers and I don't think Osborne will let it happen again. Missouri runs a similar offense, so it probably gave Nebraska some needed preparation. Missouri's defense isn't as good as the Wildcats', but it's still a good one.

"The key for Nebraska will be its pass defense. There were times when our secondary had the KSU guy covered and he would still make the grab. Our pass rush looks better, but the containment was almost non-existent. **Nebraska 37, Missouri 17.**"

Tom Vint, Associated Press: "The Huskers dodged a K-State bullet last week and now face a Missouri team that's hard to figure. The Tigers, blown out by Colorado, but winners over Illinois, have often found a way to make Nebraska miserable. I figure they will do so again. **Nebraska 32, Missouri 21.**"

Shawn Barnes, Columbia Missourian: "The OSU game was the win that Missouri really needed. OSU ran the option and Missouri stuffed it pretty well. I know Nebraska has a much better option game, but just the fact that Missouri could compete against it is a

step in the right direction. The Tigers have been building toward this and don't look for them to give it up so soon. Missouri will be on a high note after dominating OSU on both sides of the ball. It will be closer than most people think, but Nebraska will probably come out on top **38-21.**"

Our Pick: "Nebraska got a big scare last week courtesy of the Wildcats, but as the old adage goes (or at least paraphrased to fit our purpose), 'Fool me once, but not twice.' Look for Osborne to explain to his squad that they can take no team lightly. A quick call to OSU Head Coach Pat Jones can give that argument validity. Jones said there was no way he would go to 0-6 by losing to Missouri last Saturday. To make a long prediction short, Jones is now 0-6.

The Husker ground game is a proven commodity and the air attack has merits, but it will be the Black Shirts that will decide this one. K-State, like the teams before it this season, found Nebraska's weakness against the pass. Tyrone Byrd, Steve Carmer and Tyrone Legette will need to turn up the heat another notch to keep Nebraska in the game.

Last week no one gave K-State more than an outside chance against the 35-point favored Huskers and they showed up ready to play. Nebraska is too good of a team to have teams pound on them each week. Osborne will settle down his crew with some challenging talks. Look for the underdog to show up again, but a week should be more than enough time for the Huskers to prepare for the Tigers. **Nebraska wins 38-24.**" ■

Individual Stats
RUSHING
Nebraska

PLAYER	ATT	YDS	LOST	LONG	TDS
Brown	28	147	2	16	3
McCant	13	115	15	32	1
Lewis	6	79	0	38	0
Jones	6	46	0	24	0
Turner	2	-7	7	0	0

Kansas State

PLAYER	ATT	YDS	LOST	LONG	TDS
Gallon	13	51	4	20	0
Coleman	1	23	0	23	0
Watson	16	76	57	26	1
Madden	3	12	0	6	0
Smith	1	11	0	11	0

PASSING
Nebraska

PLAYER	ATT/COMP	INT	YDS	LONG	TDS
McCant	13-8	1	107	41	1

Kansas State

PLAYER	ATT/COMP	INT	YDS	LONG	TDS
Watson	46-26	0	340	34	2

RECEIVING
Nebraska

PLAYER	NO	YDS	LONG	TDS
Bostick	3	46	25	0
Mitchell	2	45	41	1
Hughes	1	9	9	0
Brown	2	7	4	0

Kansas State

PLAYER	NO	YDS	LONG	TDS
Smith	10	172	34	2
Gallon	6	82	25	0
Campbell	3	34	25	0
Hernandez	4	30	11	0
Benton	2	13	11	0
Coleman	1	9	9	0

PUNTING
Nebraska

PLAYER	NO	YDS	LONG	AVG
Stigge	5	197	46	39.4

Kansas State

PLAYER	NO	YDS	LONG	AVG
Snyder	6	253	51	42.1

PUNT RETURNS
Nebraska

PLAYER	NO	YDS	LONG
Hughes	1	18	18

Kansas State

PLAYER	NO	YDS	LONG
Smith	4	49	19

Score by Quarter

KSU	7	10	14	0	—	31
NU	14	3	7	14	—	38

Team Statistics

	NU	KSU
First downs	22	26
Rushing	19	9
Passing	3	15
Penalties	0	2
Rushing yardage	55-387	34-173
Yards lost rushing	24	61
Net yards rushing	363	112
Net yards passing	107	340
Passes attempted	13	46
Passes completed	8	26
Passes intercepted	1	0
Total plays	68	80
Total net yards	470	452
Avg. gain per play	6.9	5.6
Fumbles-lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties-yards	5-52	6-45
Interceptions-yards	0-0	2-42
Punt yards	5-197	6-253
Avg. per punt	39.4	42.1
Punt ret.-yards	2-21	4-49
Kickoff ret.-yards	5-99	5-74
Possession time	26:27	33:33
3rd down conv.	2-9	8-17
Sacks by	8-55	2-12

Defensive Stats
Nebraska

PLAYER	SOLO	ASST	SACKS	YDS LOST
Liewer	1	1	1	12
Ramaekers	0	1		
Engelbert	2	2	1	6
Parrella	2	3	1	7
Hill	4	1	2	18
White	2	2	1	3
Alberts	1	2	2	9
Petko	3	3		
Williams	2	0		
Anderson	2	1		
Stewart	2	1		
Branch	1	0		
Gray	1	0		
Pleasant	1	0		
Cotton	2	0		
Legette	7	1		
Carmer	4	2		
Byrd	3	3		
Belser	2	0		
Wilhite	1	0		
McDuffy	2	1		

Kansas State

PLAYER	SOLO	ASST	SACKS	YDS LOST
Boone	3	4		
Patterson	3	3	1	6
Venables	2	3		
Griffith	1	0	1	6
Mendez	4	3		
Masters	2	3		
Price	7	5		
Williams	2	1		

How They Scored
NU — KSU
Time
First Quarter

0-7	Michael Smith 7-yard pass from Paul Watson (Tate Wright PAT)	7:17
7-7	Derek Brown 1-yard run (Byron Bennett PAT)	5:04
14-7	Keithen McCant 32-yard run (Bennett)	1:07

Second Quarter

14-10	Wright 26-yard field goal	11:42
14-17	Smith 11-yard pass from Watson (Wright)	6:27
17-17	Bennett 33-yard field goal	3:29

Third Quarter

17-24	C.J. Masters 40-yard fumble return (Wright)	6:27
24-24	Johnny Mitchell 4-yard pass from McCant (Bennett)	5:40
24-31	Watson 3-yard run (Wright)	2:42

Fourth Quarter

31-31	Brown 3-yard run (Bennett)	6:49
38-31	Brown 1-yard run (Bennett)	2:47

Johnny Mitchell's 41-yard reception was the second-longest of his career. He also had a touchdown on Saturday and is the first sophomore in Nebraska history to have more than 10 scoring receptions.

Derek Brown has topped the 100-yard rushing mark in all six games this season.

Nebraska has now scored in a Big Eight Conference-record 215 straight games.

The Huskers have now moved to 7-

5-1 on games played on October 19.

Tyrone Hughes had the longest kickoff return of the day, a 46-yarder that the junior returned to the K-State 35 to set up a field goal just before intermission. It tied Corey Dixon for the longest return of the year.

Nebraska has given up just one first down via a penalty in 1991.

The Black Shirts recorded eight sacks against the Wildcats. For the season, the defense had chalked up just 10.

The Huskers have now lost six of seven fumbles this season. McCant's lone mistake resulted in a 40-yard return for a touchdown for K-State.

Nebraska converted just two of nine third-down plays and had the ball for just 26:27.

On the Cover: Redshirt freshman running back Calvin Jones racked up 24 of his 46 yards with a fourth-quarter run that eventually led to a Husker score. All game photos by William Lauer.

AROUND THE BIG EIGHT

Colorado 34 Oklahoma 17

The visiting Buffaloes used two Sooner turnovers and two 9-yard drives to score three first-quarter touchdowns and go on to post a crucial Big Eight Conference victory at Norman.

Darian Hagan, who entered the game as the Big Eight's most efficient passer, threw for three touchdowns and hit on 10 of 15 passes for 151 yards without an interception. Hagan also rushed for 60 yards on 17 carries and caught a pass for 28 yards when Bill McCartney called for a quarterback throwback play midway through the first quarter which set up Colorado's second touchdown.

The Sooner defense, which had been ranked eighth in rushing defense before the contest, yielded 192 yards as Oklahoma suffered its second consecutive loss after four opening the season with four wins.

OU quarterback Cale Gundy suffered through a miserable day, completing just eight of 22 throws for 89 yards and two interceptions. The lone bright spot of the day was the running of tailback Mike Gaddis who had his best day since coming back from major knee surgery, rushing for 120 yards on 17 carries and a touchdown.

Kansas 41 Iowa State 0

Kansas used early Cyclone mistakes to put away the visitors and move to 1-1 in conference play. The win was KU's first shutout in more than a decade and its most lopsided win since a 43-0 victory over ISU in 1952.

Iowa State, now 0-2 in the league, fumbled the opening kickoff (setting up a Dan Eichloff 25-yard field goal)

and had a punt blocked by Dana Stubblefield. Don Davis recovered the loose ball in the end zone for a Kansas touchdown and a 10-0 lead.

Chris Pedersen, who regained the starting job this week, suffered a shoulder injury on the Cyclones' next possession and left the game. Marv Seiler, who had thrown just one pass all season, entered the game and was terrorized by the Jayhawk pass rush and secondary.

Tony Sands became KU's all-time touchdown leader on a 16-yard jaunt in the second quarter.

Missouri 41 Oklahoma State 7

One week after suffering a 55-7 bombing at Colorado, the Tigers ripped hapless OSU in Columbia.

Phil Johnson threw for four touchdown passes and Jeff Jacke kicked field goals of 50 and 47 yards to pace the hosts. OSU was led by true freshman tailback Rafael Denson who scooted for 91 yards on 16 carries. The Cowboys' lone touchdown of the day came in the first quarter as Kenny Ford hit L.G. Thompson for a 12-yard score to cut the Mizzou lead to 14-7.

Top 10 Action . . .

Top-ranked Florida State struggled early but still posted a 39-10 win over Division I-AA Middle Tennessee State. No. 2 Miami didn't struggle, as it handily defeated Long Beach State 55-0 at the Orange Bowl. Third-ranked Washington used a 65-yard touchdown run by Beno Bryant in the fourth quarter to top Pacific-10 rival and seventh-ranked California on the road 24-17 while Desmond Howard caught three

touchdown passes to lead the No. 4 Wolverines to a conference win over Indiana. No. 5 Notre Dame won on the road at Air Force to move to 6-1 on the season while No. 6 Florida stayed at home to defeat Northern Illinois 41-10. No. 8 Tennessee saw 14th-ranked Alabama score 21 points in the fourth quarter and post a 24-19 win. Nebraska topped Kansas State and 10th-ranked Penn State scored a 37-17 conquest of East Coast rival Rutgers.



CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Team	*W	L	T	PF	PA
Nebraska	2	0	0	87	46
Colorado	2	0	0	89	24
Oklahoma	1	1	0	46	42
Kansas St.	1	1	0	47	50
Kansas	1	1	0	53	16
Missouri	1	1	0	48	62
Iowa St.	0	2	0	8	70
Oklahoma St.	0	2	0	22	90

OVERALL

Team	W	L	T	PF	PA
Nebraska	5	1	0	256	133
Colorado	4	2	0	212	81
Oklahoma	4	2	0	175	92
Kansas St.	4	2	0	151	155
Kansas	4	2	0	179	85
Missouri	3	2	1	150	176
Iowa St.	2	4	0	94	146
Oklahoma St.	0	6	0	56	197

* Wins-Losses-Tie-Points For-Points Against

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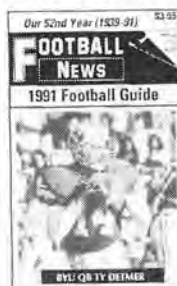
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LAST MINUTE RECRUITING

The recruiting staff at Nebraska finds itself scrambling as the signing deadline nears.

How many times have you waited in line for a long period of time, when all of a sudden the doors open and there is such a mad rush that you have to be careful or you'll end up digging your face out of the floor? That's the feeling college football coaches feel when October and November roll around.

Each Friday, through the month of October, college coaches hit the road for the first time since May. Their mission is complicated, tiresome and most important. Seven coaches from each staff on the four Fridays of October are asked to visit as many high schools as possible. During those visits they must re-evaluate what they have seen and discovered since May, gather more information by talking first hand with high school coaches, pick up updated transcripts on prospective recruits and on a few rare occasions, check out a high school game. It may sound silly, but no longer do coaches rely on eyeballing a recruit during a high school football game. Most of the evaluation is from film.

Thanks to the NCAA restrictions which limit college coaching staffs to four evaluation periods, very little evaluating is actually done at prep game sites. Coaches are only allowed four contacts with a prospective recruit. Watching that prospect play a high school football game is considered a contact. Those contact periods are precious commodities and coaches must pick the most opportune time to use them. Too many early contacts could cost a coach a critical contact period late in the recruiting process when eye-to-eye contact is most important. So, the latest NCAA restrictions have changed the evaluation philosophy of college programs.

Making the adjustment

College programs across the country have adjusted to the new rules in different manners. Many schools have had a year to tinker with its philosophies and have made adjustments along the way. Keep in mind the evaluation period begins in the middle of the college football season and many coaches are reluctant to change coaching routines for the sake of recruiting. Even highly successful programs like Nebraska limit how far its coaches will travel during the season.

"We are a little limited in the number of athletes we can actually see when

to try to utilize our coaches to see some local games.

"When we travel on away games, say Oklahoma State, we will canvass as many games as possible that Friday night in that area. It's a give and take situation when we keep our coaches close to home, but we feel we gain some advantage by keeping our coaches here."

The rough months ahead

October and November are frantic months for recruiting coordinators and coaches across the country. Film on high school prospects rolls in reel after reel after reel. Granted, this gives the coaching staffs an opportunity to look and evaluate a lot of prospects, but when combined with coaching the varsity, at times it seems there aren't enough hours in the day to get it all done properly.

"Kids are starting to formulate their opinions as to where they want to visit," Gillespie says. "So, you need to be in contact with them as much as you can. This period is the beginning of the real busy time in recruiting as things are really happening this month and by the end of November our visits should be in order."

Most prospects across the country are still trying to decide on visits, however a few are either set on their visits or have made commitments.

The Cornhuskers have two commitments at this time in tight end **T.J. Scribner** (6-foot-3, 210 pounds, 4.7 speed in the 40-meters dash) of Omaha-Brownell Talbot and running back/defensive back **Eric Stokes** (5-10, 175, 4.5) of Lincoln-East. Stokes is a top five prospect in Nebraska and a pre-season All-American at defensive back. Scribner is regarded as a top 10 pros-

"This period is the beginning of the real busy time in recruiting."

**— Dave Gillespie
Recruiting Coordinator**

given just a Friday," said Nebraska Recruiting Coordinator Dave Gillespie. "We are not one that allows our assistant coaches to travel all over the country to high school games. We are going to try to see kids primarily in a 150 mile radius.

"In this part of the country, that kind of limits you some. We are at a little bit of a disadvantage, but we hope to see all the kids that we possibly can in that 150 mile radius.

"In November, we can take the whole month and evaluate," Gillespie continues. "Again, we are not ones that let a lot of our coaches go out and take away from coaching time on the field so they can go out and evaluate. We do have an exception in Jack Pierce, who goes out practically the entire month. That helps us a great deal, that Jack can get around to different parts of the country and see some kids. Of course we will continue

pect in Husker land and one of the top all around athletes in the state.

Look for the Huskers to clean up in the state of Nebraska. They are way out in front on such outstanding



Ogard

prospects as offensive tackle/nose guard **Jeff Ogard** (6-6, 265, 5.0), a preseason All-American from St. Paul, Neb.; **Ryan Terwilliger** (6-5, 210, 4.6), a tight end out of Grant, Neb.; **Clinton Childs** (6-0, 195, 4.53), a running back/defensive back from Omaha-North Neb.; and **John Hesse** (6-4, 202, 4.7), a defensive back from Lincoln-Southeast.

The other Big Two

Oklahoma and Colorado haven't gained any big-time commitments as of yet but continue to make strong showings in their own states and around the country.

The Buffaloes have expanded their recruiting coverage after winning the national championship a year ago. The Buffs are once again strong in California, but don't be surprised if Bill McCartney's crew signs a top prospect from every section of the country. If the Buffaloes follow through and sign some of their national prospects they are currently recruiting, they may come away with the number one recruiting class in the country.

Oklahoma is shooting for a top 10 class and are in on some great prospects. The Sooners must sign a big time quarterback to succeed Cale Gundy in a couple of years and Mira Mesa San Diego, Calif., quarterback **Chad Davis** (6-2 1/2, 180, 4.7) has set visits to OU and Notre Dame. Mac Brown at North Carolina is also close to securing a visit from Davis and several top programs are in the hunt for the final two. Davis is off to an impressive start throwing for over 780 yards and seven touchdowns in his first three games.

Another Sooner quarterback prospect is preseason All-American **Ben Rutz** (6-1, 180, 4.7) of Putnam City West, Okla. After missing a game and a half due to injury Rutz has



Rutz

bounced back and thrown for over 400 yards and four scores in two games. Rutz likes OU, Nebraska and Oklahoma State early.

The Sooners have fallen behind in the chase for two outstanding nationally ranked quarterbacks. **Tommy Frazier** (6-0, 180, 4.5) of Brandenton Manatee, Fla., is generally considered the top combination run/passers in the country and indicates that he will leave the state of Florida, but wants to remain in the South. The Sooners stand an outside chance of getting a visit, but look for Clemson, Georgia Tech or Syracuse to come away with this prize. The top throwing quarterback in Texas is Deer Park's **Corey Pullig** (6-3, 200, 4.6). The Sooners appeared very much in the picture for Pullig early. This summer he was considering OU and Houston. Now Pullig says he will head out of state but is leaning toward a program that will put the ball in the air 35 to 40 times a game. Oklahoma doesn't fit the description.

Running wild in Texas

Time to update the running back situation in Texas. Preseason number one halfback **Jeff Godley** (5-11, 190, 4.5) of Arlington Houston, Texas ran into trouble with the law and faces burglary and assault charges. Godley sat out two games on suspension while Head Coach Kenny Ozee checked out the situation. Since returning from the suspension, Godley has only rushed for over 100 yards once. Twice he was held to under 40 yards rushing. Obviously Godley is struggling and charges are still pending. Almost all college recruiters have dropped off of Godley at the moment. Ozee feels Godley deserves another chance. The thinking in Texas is that Baylor Head Coach Grant Teaff is the one coach with a good enough image to recruit Godley.

The 'other' Texans

Godley was involved in a dream match-up of nationally ranked running backs when Arlington Houston lined up with **Shawn Walters** (6-1, 220, 4.55). Walters is ranked as the top big back in the country and easily won this battle gaining 240 yards to Godley's 46. Walters has 730 yards and 10 touchdowns midway through the season. It doesn't sound as if Walters is interested in the Southwest Conference at all as he continues to talk up OU, Colorado and Nebraska. Walters used to live in Lawton, Okla., and is good

friends with Dewell Brewer which may give the Sooners an advantage.

Kweli Thompson (5-11, 190, 4.5) of Houston Lamar, Texas is off to a great start rushing for over 700 yards in five games. Thompson still has an interest in OU along with Nebraska, Houston, USC, Texas A&M and Duke. **Sterling Boyd** (5-10, 170, 4.3) the top speed back in the country out of Sherman, Texas, but has been suffering from a groin pull and hasn't been at full speed in three weeks. Boyd, who may be better suited at flanker or wingback is still interested in heading back East. Pittsburg, Clemson, Florida and Florida State have the best shot at the moment. Another Texas top 50 RB is Garland Lakeview's Tony Blockett (6-1, 180, 4.5). Blockett is off and running through five games with 659 yards through five games. This powerful runner hasn't set his visits as of yet, but has OU in the picture along with 10 other schools.

OU adds one-two punch

Add **Ben Fay** and **Matt Davis** to OU's recruiting list out of Texas. Both play at Ft. Worth Brewer High and are quite talented. Fay (6-2, 195, 4.7) is the quarterback who threw for 1,900 yards and 18 touchdowns a year ago and is off to another fine start this season. Fay has hit on 45 of 97 passes and seven scores. His favorite receiver is Davis (6-5, 195, 4.55) who caught 34 passes a year ago for 717 yards on offense while picking off eight passes at free safety. Davis continues to be Fay's favorite target with 23 catches midway through the season and 360 yards. Both players won't take a serious look at recruiting until their senior season is over, but those programs in the hunt include OU, Tennessee, Missouri, Miami, Florida, Houston and Penn State. Fay also excels academically and may take a look at Duke and the academies. The two would love to play together, but realize that may not work out.

The talent in Oklahoma

In Oklahoma add offensive tackle **Danny Hunt** (6-5, 275, 5.0) of Owasso to the state's list of top lineman. Hunt moved in this season from the Cal Berkeley area and is one fine athlete. **Jason Hall** (6-3, 250, 4.9) of Tulsa Union is a defensive tackle who has come on this season and is beginning to draw attention from top college programs in the area. Defensive tackle **Sean Wells** (6-5, 265, 4.95) and Linebacker **Brandy Crow** (6-2, 212, 4.7)

of Jenks have solidified their status as Blue Chip recruits with outstanding play through the first half the season. Crow has started for three years and is leaning toward OU. Add linebackers **Teddy McDade** (6-2, 205, 4.6) of Norman and **Brian Turgeau** (6-2, 220, 4.7) of Broken Arrow to your watch list. Both have played well enough at the midway point to start attracting attention from major college recruiters.

The Cornhuskers have a great reputation for recruiting players across the country. Currently the Huskers list players from 22 states, Germany and Canada. So, it's not surprising to find the Huskers in on players throughout the Midwest, East Coast and down South.

Huskers quarterback hunting

One of the Huskers' top priorities is quarterback and currently they are very much in the hunt for one of the top signal callers out of Michigan in Reggie Vick (6-0, 180, 4.5) of Battle Creek-Central. Vick is an option wizard with an outstanding arm. It's Nebraska, Iowa State, Michigan State, Wisconsin and Vanderbilt at the moment. Defensive tackle **David Reese** (6-4, 270, 5.4)

of Redford-Bishop Borgess is taking a hard look at the Huskers. Playing both ways Reese managed 40 tackles a year ago with two quarterback sacks while also sporting a 325 bench. Nebraska will battle Wisconsin, Indiana, Miami, Pittsburgh, Illinois and Michigan State to fit into one of his five visits.

Fishing in the Great Lake State

OU is trying to snag a couple of linebackers out of the crop of potential college stars Michigan has to offer. Heading the list is All-Stater **Terry Harvey** (6-0, 220, 4.7) of Detroit-Denby and **Shannon Scarborough** (6-2, 225, 4.8) of Cheboygan-Area. Harvey is a four-year starter who doesn't get blocked off his feet and flows to the ball in a hurry. He totaled 87 stops and two sacks a year ago.



Reese

If Harvey can get his grades in order, OU would be in the hunt along with Tennessee, Michigan, Michigan State, Georgia and Miami. Scarborough is a two way standout who doubles at fullback,

rushing for 1,341 yards and 14 touchdowns. As a linebacker, Scarborough managed 11 stops behind the line of scrimmage. Sporting a 3.5 GPA, but no test at the moment he likes OU, UCLA, Syracuse, Michigan and Michigan State.

Gregory Scott (6-0, 183, 4.46) a



Harvey

tailback/free safety out of Detroit King, Mich., is looking at Colorado, OU and Kansas. This three-year starter also worked at wide receiver, but colleges love his speed and ability in the backfield. He's already scored a 16 on

the ACT and carries a 2.86 GPA. Michigan State is also in a favorites role with Michigan and Penn State. **Jim Kozlowski** (6-4, 245, 5.0) of Sterling Heights Uttica Ford, Mich., is leaning towards Michigan, but says he won't make that commitment until he has seen OU, Notre Dame, Indiana and Vanderbilt. 'The Koz' is a top 10 player in Michigan with a 340 BP, 3.1

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Homesick already?

Elsewhere in the Midwest OU has moved into Ohio with some success. **Ty Douthard** (6-2, 195, 4.45) of Cincinnati LaSalle is the state's top running back. Douthard

rushed for over 1,000 yards and 15 touchdowns a year ago and is off to a good start with 730 yards in the bag midway through this season. A separated shoulder will put Douthard on the shelf for a couple of

weeks, but it won't keep the recruiters away. Despite worrying about the distance, Ty says he has an interest in OU.

"I really like the football team and the school," Douthard has said. "I worry about it being too far away from home. I haven't looked into how long it takes to fly from here to Norman yet, but maybe it won't be too far so my folks can see me play. If it is, then I'll play somewhere close to home."

Ohio State may wind up with this preseason All-American.

Other Buckeye Blue Chippers

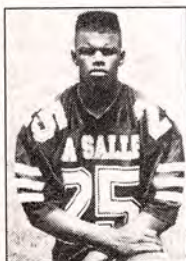
Trey Crusan (6-5, 275, 5.0) is the top offensive lineman in Ohio out of Cincinnati Sycamore. Crusan is a drive blocker with a 420 pound bench, 50 foot shot and 145 foot discus. He also brings a 2.5 GPA and 23 ACT to the party. Trey's father



Crusan

Doug played at Indiana and for the Dolphins, but says he'll let his son decide. Crusan likes Vanderbilt, UCLA, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oklahoma and West Virginia. Another great Offensive lineman in Ohio wanting to visit OU is **Eric Wendt** (6-5, 270, 5.1) of Cincinnati-Moeller. Wendt's list includes OU, Notre Dame, Michigan, Virginia, Clemson, Florida and Kentucky. **Terry Killens** (6-1, 195, 4.5) is a defensive back from Cincinnati (Purcell)-Marion, Ohio who has started since his sophomore season and is rated as one of the top 10 players in the area. Killens is looking at Syracuse, Indiana, Ohio State, OU and West Virginia.

Indiana sports several top prospects



Douthard

interested in Big Eight schools. The state's top running backs **David Jackson** (5-11, 195, 4.5) of Evansville-Bossee, and **Royce Love** (6-0, 230, 4.75) of East Chicago-Central are looking at OU and Nebraska respectively.

Love averages 9 yards per carry and excels at linebacker as well. It's Nebraska, Vanderbilt, Notre Dame, Purdue, Indiana and Illinois in the hunt for this two way star.

Jackson is a power runner who excels at breaking tackles averaging 6 yards per carry. Still looking to pass the test, Jackson is hoping to visit Michigan State, OU and Indiana.

Next stop Indiana

The top wide receiver in the state is **Derrick Mays** (6-2, 190, 4.4) of Indianapolis North Central. Mays is a preseason All-American who caught 45 passes a year ago for 720 yards and averaged 13 yards a punt return. Big Ten schools will be in the hunt along with OU, MIAMI, UCLA and Notre Dame.

Blue Chip quarterback **Kevin Lyles** (6-3, 205, 4.7) of Indianapolis-Lawrence North threw for 1,219 yards and 12 touchdowns a year ago and is on pace to better that this season. Big

enough to double as a linebacker, Lyles is hoping to visit Nebraska, Colorado, Michigan, Vanderbilt and Indiana. He also has a 2.8 GPA and 1000 SAT score as well.

Tom Lukawski (6-2, 265, 5.0) of East Chicago-Central is one of the top three offensive linemen in Indiana and is looking at Notre Dame, Nebraska, Colorado, Indiana, Vanderbilt, Kentucky, Michigan and Purdue.

Linebacker **James Qualizzo** (6-2, 225, 4.75) of Merrillville-Andrean totaled 103 tackles as a junior and has 64 through five games this year. Nebraska will get a visit from this talented youngster along with Notre Dame, Purdue, BYU and Illinois.

Sooner fan in Minnesota

It's very rare when the Sooners sign a prospect out of Minnesota, however one of the top running backs in the state **Marvin Sims** (5-10, 170, 4.55) of Apple Valley is looking OU's way. Sims admits to being a life long Sooner fan. That's OK with the Sooners because Sims juked his way to 1,635 yards and 21 touchdowns as a junior, averaging 8.4 yards per carry. Nebraska, Michigan State, Miami, Michigan and Iowa will battle the Sooners for this great prospect. ■

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Coaching Alums

Last week, we surveyed the AFC coaching staffs to give you a look at those who had ties — either as coaches or players — to Big Eight schools. This week, a look at the NFC.

NFC EAST



Dallas Cowboys

Head Coach Jimmy Johnson was head coach at Oklahoma State (1979-83) and was an assistant at both Iowa State (1968-69) and

Oklahoma (1970-72). Defensive Coordinator Dave Wannstedt was an assistant at OSU from 1979-82. Special Teams Coach Joe Avezzano was an assistant at Iowa State in 1983. Defensive Backs Coach Dave Campo was an assistant at Iowa State in 1983. Defensive Line Coach Butch Davis assisted at OSU from 1979-83. Tight End Coach Robert Ford coached at Kansas in 1986 and Offensive Line Coach Tony Wise worked at OSU from 1979-83. Scout Ron Marciniak was an all-conference guard at Kansas State in 1954.



Jimmy Johnson



Phoenix Cardinals

Head Coach Joe Bugel was an assistant at Iowa State in 1973. Defensive Backs Coach Jim Johnson played quarterback at Missouri from 1960-62 and was the Tigers' MVP in his senior year. Receivers Coach Ted Plumb held the same title at Kansas from 1972-73. Scout Bo Bolinger was an All-American guard at Oklahoma in 1955 and served as a graduate assistant in 1956. Assistant trainer Jeff Herndon graduated from Missouri in 1985.



Washington Redskins

The 'Skins may have one of the best records in the league, but they currently don't have any Big Eight coaches to thank for it.

NFC CENTRAL



New York Giants

Special Teams Coach Mike Sweatman was an All-Big Eight linebacker at Kansas in 1966 and later coached on the Jayhawk staff.



Philadelphia Eagles

Defensive Line Coach Dale Haupt coached at Iowa State from 1964-65 and Offensive Line Coach Bill Walsh coached at Kansas State in 1959. Strength Coach Jim Williams was an assistant strength coach at Nebraska in 1970-71. Director of Player Personnel Joe Wooley was a three-sport letterman at Oklahoma State in 1960-61.

Chicago Bears



Bill Tobin, Vice President of Player Personnel, was a star running back at Missouri (1960-62) and was a graduate assistant coach for the Tigers from 1964-66. Tobin's younger brother, Vince, is the Bears' defensive coordinator. Vince Tobin was an All-Big Eight defensive back at Missouri and later coached for the Tigers from 1967-76 under head coaches Dave Devine and Al Onofrio. He served as the Bears' interim head coach for a pair of wins in 1988 after Mike Ditka suffered a heart attack. Defensive Line Coach John Levra served as offensive coordinator at Kansas from 1975-78. Linebacker Coach David McGinnis served under Tobin's direction at Missouri from 1975-77. Running Back Coach Johnny Roland was an All-American at Missouri in 1964. In his ninth year with the Bears, Roland has been mentioned for several head coaching vacancies. Defensive Backs Coach Zaven Yarelian was a two-year starter at Nebraska (1972-73) and coached at Nebraska (1975) and Missouri (1978-83). Scout Jim Farmer played at Oklahoma State in the mid-1940s. Scout Charlie Mackey coached at Missouri for five years.

NFC WEST

Detroit Lions



Defensive Coordinator Woody Widenhofer was head coach at Missouri from 1985-88. Special Teams Coach Frank Gansz coached at Oklahoma State in 1973 and again in 1975 with a year at Army thrown in the middle. Running Back Coach Billie Mathews was on the Kansas staff in 1970.

Atlanta Falcons



With 'Prime Time' how could there be any room for anyone else? Maybe that's why there are no conference coaches in Atlanta.

Green Bay Packers



Defensive Line Coach Greg Blanche coached at Kansas in 1987. Receiver Coach Buddy Geis was set to become Kansas' new offensive coordinator in 1983, but joined Packer Head Coach Lindy Infante with the fledgling Jacksonville Bulls of the USFL before the start of the 1983 Jayhawk season. Outside Linebacker Coach Dick Mosley coached at Colorado from 1979-81. Offensive Backs Coach Willie Peete is the father of former Kansas wideout Skip Peete. Strength Coach Russell Riederer was the Kansas State strength coach from 1978-87.

Los Angeles Rams



Defensive and Special Teams Assistant Nolan Cromwell was an All-Big Eight performer as a wishbone quarterback in 1975 before switching to defense in the NFL.

New Orleans Saints



Head Coach Jim Mora coached six seasons under Eddie Crowder at Colorado from 1968-73. Offensive Coordinator Carl Smith was a graduate assistant at Colorado in 1972 and a full-time member of the staff in 1973. Defensive Coordinator Steve Sidwell was an all-conference linebacker for Colorado in 1964 and coached at the school from 1966-73.

Minnesota Vikings



Defensive Coordinator Monte Kiffin was a three-year letterman at Nebraska and later coached Husker defenders from 1970-77. Tight End Coach Tom Batta coached the defensive line at Colorado from 1974-78 and was defensive coordinator at Kansas (1979-82).

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Offensive Coordinator Hank Kuhlmann graduated from Missouri in 1959 and played pro baseball for four years as a catcher before returning to Missouri as head freshman coach in 1962. He served on the varsity staff from 1966-71 as running back coach before moving to the Packers with Dan Devine. Defensive Line Assistant Ray Hamilton is in his first year with the Bucs. He was a two-time All-Big Eight defensive end at Oklahoma (1971-72). Last season he was the coach of the semi-pro Bay State Titans, where he tutored future No. 1 draft pick Eric Swann. Quarterback Coach Morris Watts has a master's degree from Kansas State and coached quarterbacks at Kansas in 1975. Scout Mike Yaworsky was a graduate assistant at Kansas in 1984-88.



San Francisco 49ers

Scout Vinny Cerato played quarterback at Iowa State (1978-81).



...

Pickens signs, but not ready to go

When Bruce Pickens and the Atlanta Falcons finally ended the protracted contract negotiations, Head Coach Jerry Glanville was happy to finally have the player he wanted all along in camp. That was until he had to watch Pickens throw up after his first workout with the Falcons. "He could play if the game didn't go over three minutes," Glanville said. "He's in the worst shape of anybody in the history of football. He makes Mike Rozier (who had also shown up out of shape) look like he came in in great shape. (Pickens) can't get through warmups right now. He passed out stretching." Needless to say,

Pickens cont.

Pickens was not activated when the Falcons met the 49ers. By the way, the \$7.15 million contract that the two sides finally agreed upon was the same one that Pickens agent first proposed during training camp.

Cross' sacks mean Miami wins

Former Missouri star Jeff Cross' ability to sack the opposing quarterback has become an amazing indicator of how well the Dolphins will do in a game. Since becoming a starter in 1989, Miami is 16-1 in games that he has recorded a sack and 7-15 in games which he has failed to reach the opposing passer. The only time the Dolphins have lost a Cross sack game was on September 10, 1989, a 27-24 loss to Buffalo. Since that date, they have won 16 straight in games he has a sack. Through seven games in 1991, Miami is 2-0 in his sack games, 1-4 in his sackless games.

Around the league

Only a bye week for the Lions could keep Barry Sanders out of this week's column. But his former OSU teammate **Thurman Thomas** used Week Seven to pass the 4,000-yard mark in rushing. . . It took six game, but **Kanavis McGhee** finally recorded his first NFL

tackle for the Giants. He was credited with an assist in the Giants' 20-9 win over the Cardinals in Week Six...Guard **Keith Sims** of Miami and Iowa State injured a knee in the Dolphins' loss at New York and was placed on injured reserve. He could be back in six weeks..Cornerback **Alvin Walton** of the Redskins was

due to be activated off injured reserve after spending the first part of the year on the sidelines with a shoulder injury. . . Former Colorado linebacker **Mickey Pruitt** was activated by the Cowboys for Week Seven. He began the year with the Bears, but was claimed on waivers by Dallas last week. ■



Thurman Thomas

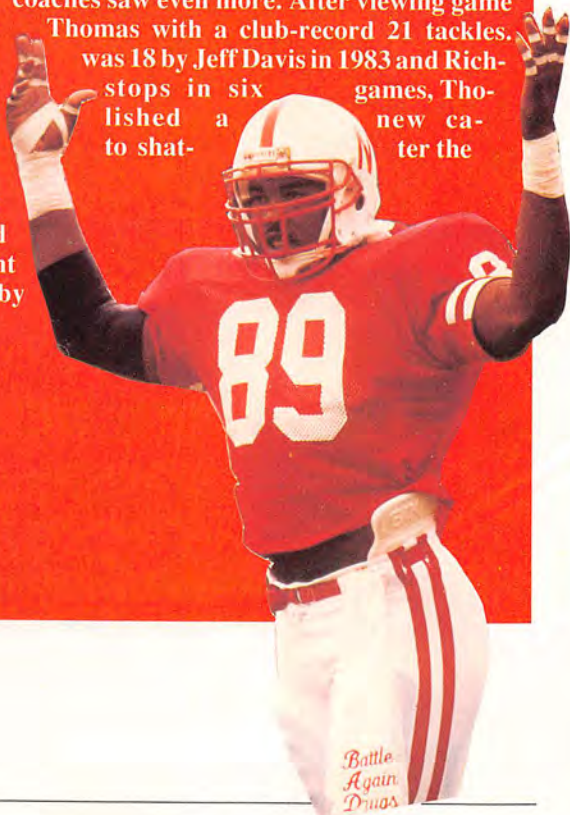
Dixon bouncing back

After suffering through knee surgery and a broken right leg in 1990, Rickey Dixon has finally bounced back for the Bengals this season. He ranks second on the squad with 32 tackles (two shy of team leader David Fulcher). Part of his new-found success has to do with the move back to safety after a trial at cornerback. "I'd never like to play corner again," Dixon said. "I Can play, but I'd like to see the day when I can stay at safety for good."



Thomas still improving

In last week's issue, we noted that Tampa Bay linebacker Broderick Thomas continues to improve and has become one of the true bright spots in an otherwise dismal first half for the Bucs. He had another standout effort in their 14-13 win over Philadelphia, setting up the first of two fourth quarter touchdowns by tackling Eagles punter Jeff Feagles after he had fumbled the snap. He was credited with 11 tackles by press box spotters. But Tampa Bay coaches saw even more. After viewing game video tapes, they credited Thomas with a club-record 21 tackles. The previous club record was 18 by Jeff Davis in 1983 and Rich- stops in six games, Tho- mas had already estab- lished a new ca- to shat- ter the club single-season record. Thomas was averaging 12.8 tackles per game and would finish with 205 at his current pace. The club mark is 174 by Cecil Johnson in 1981.



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Squeezing Big Bodies into the Husker Puzzle

Derrick Chandler is optimistic about Nebraska's chances of repeating last season's success.

He's not predicting 26 victories, necessarily. But if things were to fall right, the Cornhuskers could make a serious run at the Big Eight title, according to Chandler.

"I can see it (happening) if everybody contributes in their own way," he said recently.

Chandler sees himself contributing to a successful season. He's confident about that. But he tends to understate the importance of his role. "I'm just a little piece of the puzzle," Chandler said.

Literally, that's wrong. The word "little" doesn't fit. Chandler stands 6-foot-10 and weighs 245 pounds, or at least he plans to.

That's what he weighed last season, when he played at Alvin (Texas) Community College. Over the summer, however, Chandler traveled to Taipei, Taiwan, with a National Junior College Athletic Association all-star team, which won the gold medal in the Jones Cup International Tournament.

The competition was good, but the food, for the most part, wasn't. As a

result, "I lost about seven or eight pounds," said Chandler. "And I've had a hard time gaining it back."

In any case, Chandler is no "small" piece to the puzzle in that sense, nor is he a small piece in a figurative sense. With the departure of Rich King to the NBA as a first-round draft choice, Chandler becomes Nebraska's No. 1 center.

And much of what the Huskers are able to do will depend on how well he handles that responsibility.

Nebraska will have to make a "major adjustment," Coach Danny Nee says. "It's going to be a big transition, like a football team going from the I-formation to a one-back set. On the whole, 75 percent of what we do offensively and defensively will remain the same. But 25 percent, that's still a significant amount."

Chandler thinks he can help in picking up the slack, "bringing the team to another level. I feel I can do it," he said. "I feel I'll make everybody a little better."

Based on his play at Alvin Community College, there's every reason to believe Chandler. As a sophomore, he averaged 15 points and nine rebounds.

"I consider myself an all-around player," Chandler said.

Chandler doesn't have King's height and his strengths are different. But he can have a similar effect on a team, according to Nee. "He's a physical player. He can run the floor, rebound and play good defense."

Chandler can hold his own inside. His home is Washington, D.C., where he attended DeMatha High School, and he's used to playing the very physical playground game.

He and former Georgetown player and friend Michael Graham have often gone head-to-head. "I've played with him a lot during the summers," said Chandler. "Coach (Nee) tells me about Byron Houston (of Oklahoma State).

"But Michael Graham is the strongest player I've ever seen."

Chandler brought evidence of that with him to Nebraska when he enrolled for the fall semester. The two were matched in a summer league game in August, and Chandler went to the hoop against Graham. As Chandler jammed the ball, "he pulled my arm back."

Chandler felt something pop in his shoulder but kept playing.

The shoulder still bothered him when he got to Nebraska. When it began to swell, he went to Nee, who, in turn, sent him to George Sullivan, the head trainer and physical therapist.

In late September, Chandler underwent arthroscopic surgery on the shoulder. Within 10 days, he was back playing basketball. "I didn't want to let everybody down. I had to start getting ready," Chandler said.

The injury might have been a blessing, according to Chandler, even though it took so long to diagnose. "I learned to play with



Chandler (left) is looking forward to filling the spot left open by the departure of center Rich King (opposite page, right).

pain," he said.

Chandler can laugh about the experience. "I got Graham," he said. "But he got me in the long run."

Playing in the tournament in Taiwan also prepared him for his first season of NCAA-Division I competition. The tournament included national teams from the Philippines, China, Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and Nicaragua, as well as club teams from Germany and the Soviet Union - Estonia.

As is the case in most international tournaments, "the competition was really tough and physical," Chandler said.

The junior college all-stars defeated the Soviet team — which included four Olympians — in the title game, 96-79. The Soviet team's front line players all stood about 7-feet tall, according to Chandler. "But we were a lot more athletic."

Officially, Chandler blocked 16 shots in eight tournament games. He should have been credited with more than 16, he said. "They were bad at counting (blocked shots)."

Chandler didn't score in the tournament as much as he would have liked because "we were supposed to let the guards and the No. 2s do the shooting. All we (the front line) got were the garbage points. But that's OK. Whatever it takes to win."

Chandler expects a similar attitude to characterize this season's Cornhuskers. If it does, "we're going to be real good. I really mean that," he said. "I don't want to have people thinking last year was a fluke."

More Chandler . . .

Despite his physical play, Chandler hasn't been foul prone. "I think the last time I fouled out of a game was in high school," he said.

Chandler doesn't anticipate problems moving up a level from junior college competition to NCAA-Division I. "I told Coach (Nee) the other day that junior college play is a little more athletic because a lot of the junior college guys can't get into D-I (Division I) schools," he said.

Pancho Hodges, Chandler's teammate at Alvin Community College, signed an early letter of intent with Colorado. The two could find themselves matched against each other. The 6-9 Hodges also is a center.

Nee is confident that Chandler will be able to handle the load at center this season. King, of course, will be missed.

Rich King

But a bigger concern is Nebraska's lack of experience.

"That's our biggest loss," he said. "That was the prime ingredient that made us successful."

Without King, Nee will utilize the unique strengths of other players, such as senior Carl Hayes and sophomore Eric Piatkowski, the wings. "We have talented players," said Nee, though not quite as many as he'd like.

Ideally, "you'd like to have two of everything, like Noah's Ark."

A "rich" King . . .

King signed a contract with the NBA's Seattle SuperSonics just hours before the SuperSonics were scheduled for their first meeting of training camp. King's contract is worth \$2.8 million over four years, according to published reports.

King was Seattle's first-round pick in last June's draft, the first Cornhusker ever drafted in the first round. He was the 14th player chosen, overall, but because of the NBA salary cap, it appeared that he either would have



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to sign with the SuperSonics for about \$180,000 or play in Europe.

The Seattle Times reported that King was very close to playing in Italy, at the suggestion of an agent he subsequently fired. "I was on a plane to Chicago to catch another flight to Italy before I changed my mind. That's about as close as you can get," King told John Peoples of the *The Seattle Times*.

That left King with the prospect of playing one season for \$180,000, after which he would have become a restricted free agent.

"A one-year deal was kind of scary," King told the Associated Press. "You could get hurt and not play anymore. With four years, there is a little more security."

King was able to get that security because the day before his signing, the SuperSonics traded guard Sedale Threatt to the Los Angeles Lakers. Threatt would have earned approximately \$800,000 this season, so his departure freed up money for King.

"The trading of Sedale Threatt really helped a lot," King's new agent, Herb Rudoy, told the AP.

"Rich is very happy and it's really a terrific deal considering the aggravation of the salary cap. Really, everything seems to have fallen into place better than we thought."

King will play behind Seattle's two veteran centers, Benoit Benjamin and Michael Cage. His role "will be determined by how he does in training camp and the exhibition games," SuperSonics Coach K.C. Jones told the Seattle newspaper. Jones said that King has demonstrated good offensive skills but he needs work on his defense.

Nebraska will benefit from King's signing, according to Nee.

"I really think it's a positive," Nee said. "We can show people we had a player who came into our program not that highly regarded, and he made himself into a first-round draft pick. That's a tribute to him."

In Other News . . .

Nebraska is in the running to get Jaron Boone's signature on a letter of intent. Boone is a 6-5 guard and forward at Skyline High in Salt Lake City.

Boone is the son of former Omahan Ron Boone, an all-star in the American Basketball Association who now works as a color commentator on the Utah Jazz broadcast network. ■

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For most people, the only players we watch on Saturday are the running backs, quarterbacks and other skilled positions. After all they are the ones that light up the scoreboard or make the big hit or interception. That's what the fans want to see. I know that may not be fair to the other players, but as fans we don't know much about the other spots on your team. Maybe you can tell me about offensive line. Surely the guys in the backfield couldn't be as successful without them. Can any player play all five spots and what skills do they need other than just being big?

Sorry for the ignorance.

Chuck Finley

Omaha, Neb.

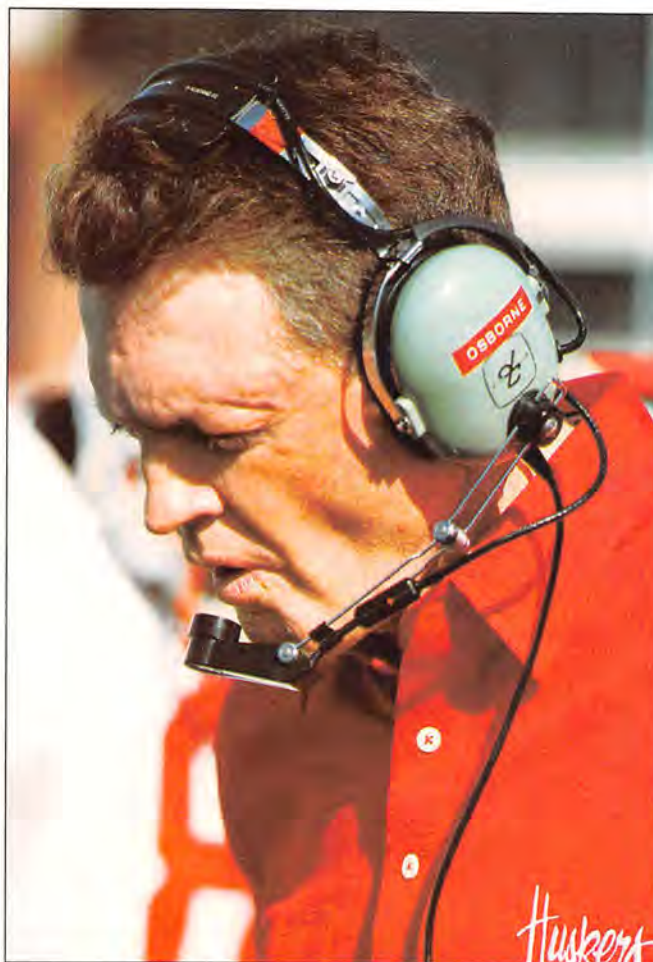
Osborne: *The offensive line consists of five positions: two offensive guards, two tackles and a center. At the guard positions we like players who are mobile and can pull and do a good job making blocks on the run. At offensive center, obviously you need someone who can snap the football but also is very good at blocking. At the offensive tackle position, you need players who are big, physical and can do a good job of blocking one on one against big defensive tackles. All the positions require an extreme amount of mental ability as our linemen need to make a lot of calls and adjustments according to the defensive look that we are getting. We do have some players who can play both guard and tackle, not very many players can play another position besides center. Our guards and tackles are able to play both left and right.*

I've got two questions for Coach Osborne.

First, most teams substitute at all positions during a game except at quarterback. The usual reason given for not alternating the quarterback is it would disrupt the flow of the offense. Do you believe this is the reason? Have you considered using the three quarterbacks (Keithen McCant, Tom Haase, and Mickey Joseph) this year in some sort of alternating fashion or would you prefer a clear cut winner?

Second, I've heard that some teams scout themselves to look for their tendencies. Does Nebraska do this and if so, how do you use this information?

David Enholm
Omaha, Neb.



What's Osborne listening to? One fan wants to know.

Osborne: *The quarterback position is a lot different from the rest of the offensive positions. The quarterback has to be the leader and since he is exchanging a snap from the center each play, it is very important that the quarterback be consistent. Anytime you change quarterbacks you have the possibility of a snap problem. We would like one quarterback to be in the game to get a feel for the game and get some confidence in what he is doing. It is also important for the rest of the offense to rally around the quarterback and if you are substituting quarterbacks too much, it is hard for that to happen.*

The answer to your other question is that we believe self scouting is important during the season. First, it gives us a good idea of our own tendencies and second, we can evaluate what is working as far as offensive plays and defenses.

By self scouting, we are constantly evaluating what we are doing and what we should change.

I don't get a chance to see you play except when you come to Oklahoma to

beat OU and OSU.


When I went to your game against Oklahoma State (Oct. 12), I noticed that you were wearing a headset, but Pat Jones wasn't. Do you always wear a headset? I'm pretty sure it wasn't because of a noise factor unless it was the Nebraska fans making the noise. By wearing the headset, does that mean that you do not call your own plays, whereas Jones does? I'd also like to know who does call your plays.

Michael Powell
Ada, Okla.

Osborne: *You will notice some head coaches wear headsets and some don't. I always wear a headset during the game. I call the offensive plays from the sideline with the advice and suggestions of the offensive coaches.*

By wearing headsets, I am able to communicate with the offensive and defensive coaches at any time.

Address questions to Coach Osborne to **View From South Stadium**, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Neb., 68501. ■



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